

WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

December 10, 2013

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

Attendance:

Arthur Smith	Wasco County Public Works
Steve Wilkins	Wasco County Public Works
Dale McCabe	City of The Dalles Public Works
Brenda Huskey	City of The Dalles Public Works
Steve Byers	City of The Dalles Public Works
Ed Ortega	Northern Wasco County PUD
Nathan Pope	Chenowith Water PUD
Jim Bailey	Wasco Electric Co-op
Yogi Rattay	NW Natural
Mike Richardson	The Dalles Irrigation District

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 a.m. by President-Elect, Ed Ortega.

Minutes:

Minutes of the November 19th meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

There is still a balance of \$3,477.85 in our checking account. No activity last month.

Damage Report:

There was one damage for November reported by City of The Dalles.

Old Business:

Ed read an excerpt from Kenny Hamlin's letter dated December 2nd regarding a previous question the council had about how often a facility owner should initial an extended locate. Answers sited the Common Ground Alliance Best Practices 10.0, *appendix B. Uniform Color and Code Marking Guidelines* (4). It states an operator's identifier is placed at the beginning and at the end of the proposed work. In addition, subsequent operators using the same color mark their company identifier at all points where their facility crosses another operator's facility using the same color. The maximum separation of identifiers is to be reduced to a length that **can be reasonably seen by the excavator when the terrain at the excavation site warrants**. Thanks to Kenny and everyone who responded!

Ed updated us on another privately-owned electrical line found at the old Norco building behind Napa. The meter that belongs to this building is on a pole across the alley. It has been identified on PUD maps and the serviceman now locates it.

Arthur confirmed that **Wednesday, December 18th, is the day we will hold our Facility Owner/Operator Training at the Discovery Center from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the main theater.** A sandwich bar lunch and hot beverage service will be provided by the Basalt Rock Café. We know that weather plays a huge part in the turnout but please try to make this training since some very beneficial information will be shared. All utilities have a standard procedure for when a line is damaged. Contact numbers/procedures (who do you call first, second, etc.) for all utilities will be discussed. **Please e-mail Brenda with your utility's/agency's contact numbers and procedures of who to call first (during business hours and after hours)** since she will be making a wallet card for everyone with that information.

It would be great if your utility/agency would provide a speaker who can briefly tell about what services and responsibilities your utility/agency provides, how many employees you have, how large your service area is and how you handle customer service inquiries. Also provide the notification procedures you would like followed when someone damages your utility. If you need props for your presentation, please bring your own. A question and answer period will follow each speaker. **Please let Brenda know as soon as possible who your speaker will be so she can complete the agenda.**

Council members feel the notification procedures are very important so Arthur and Dale will call the utilities and agencies who haven't responded or indicated they would not be present and encourage them to attend.

New Business:

Nathan said he had a call last Friday from the locator for Locate, Inc. saying he wouldn't locate for his new sample station until the snow was gone. Council members informed him that sometimes that happens in inclement weather if the locate is not an emergency and to be patient, it has always worked out. The key is positive communication.

Round Table:

Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works

- ❖ NW Kodiak is still on Webber Street by the RR tracks and across the intersection working on the City's water line project. Hopefully they should be done within the next two weeks.
- ❖ Chasing water leaks and broken pipes.
- ❖ Per Steve - The sewer crew is in the alley off Pentland between 7th and 8th streets doing a main renewal.

Nathan Pope – Chenowith Water PUD

- ❖ Winter maintenance.

Yogi Rattay – NW Natural Gas

- ❖ Starting 8th/Liberty and going to Garrison and Pentland.
- ❖ 300 feet left to do on Union but this will be done after 8th/Liberty.
- ❖ Bids will be in by the end of December for the 1700' stretch at the Chenowith Industrial Park.

Jim Bailey

- ❖ Miscellaneous services throughout their territory and system maintenance.
- ❖ Rebuild of the Pine Hollow Substation should be completed by mid December/early January.

Mike Richardson – The Dalles Irrigation District

- ❖ Winter maintenance
- ❖ Miscellaneous services throughout their territory.

Arthur Smith – Wasco County Public Works

- ❖ Winter maintenance.

Ed Ortega – Northern Wasco County PUD

- ❖ Pulling inspections and maintenance.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m. Thanks to everyone who attended!

Remember next month's meeting: January 21st.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Huskey, Secretary