

WASCO COUNTY UNDERGROUND COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

February 19, 2013

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

Attendance:

Herb Watts	North State Telephone/Sunset Peak
Brenda Huskey	City of The Dalles
Dale McCabe	City of The Dalles
John Walker	NW Natural
Troy Klein	NW Natural
Yogi Rattay	NW Natural
Sheri Clark	NW Natural
Mike Richardson	The Dalles Irrigation District
Nathan Pope	Chenowith Water PUD

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m. by President, Herb Watts.

Minutes:

Minutes of the January 15th, 2013 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Arthur was not present so the treasurer's report was not available.

Damage Report:

Arthur was not present so the damage report was not available.

Old Business:

Arthur has more calendars and you can stop by Wasco County Public Works and pick them up from him if you would like more.

New Business:

Jim Bailey attended the Oregon Public Utility Safety Meeting in Salem on January 17th. Herb read Jim's notes from the meeting: As we have heard, the topic of exemptions is a "hot" one. There are groups working on this and it seems to be a sore subject between Oregon OSHA and ODOT surveyors and others. The contentiousness is noticeable and the political overtones are very apparent. Surveyors were reminded to call for a locate.

The definition of excavation as written in the standards manual seems to be in question. How technical should it be? It sounds like some of the surveying instruments are driven into the ground deeper than 12 inches.

When my utility stakes lines, they are sometimes lucky to drive a stake 4 inches into the ground. They drive stakes into the ground to mark pole and anchor locations and call for locates before we auger the holes and install these poles and anchors.

There was discussion on the topic of “bar holing” which is a gas utility practice that is used to locate the source of a leak in a pipeline. Jim wondered if Troy could explain bar holing and why a locate is not needed for this practice. Troy said they are exempted from needing a locate because they are mitigating an emergency (a leak) so no fines are levied. If they do hit a utility while bar holing, NW Natural pays for the damage.

Herb and Art have been talking about purchasing some 811 bumper stickers. Those present liked the idea of using half of the artwork design on the 811 posters for the bumper stickers so Herb said he will head to Staples and bring several different sized samples to our next meeting.

Round Table:

Mike Richardson – The Dalles Irrigation District

- ❖ Looking forward to putting water in the pipe next month.

Sheri Clark – NW Natural

- ❖ Heated up the new main on Webber/1st yesterday and tied it in. Four services still need to be tied over and they should be through by the 22nd of February. Project has gone really well.
- ❖ Repairing the ½” poly line in the 1800 block of E 9th as soon as Webber/1st is finished.
- ❖ Starting to eliminate long couplings on Scenic and Jefferson.
- ❖ Finish Laughlin Street.

Dale McCabe - City of The Dalles Public Works

- ❖ Last week construction started on the water line project on River Road. A pre-construction meeting and walk through took place last Friday. Crestline is pre-digging the trench and when rock is hit, a hammer will be brought in to take care of that and then the pipe will be laid all at once. This project should take about 3 to 4 weeks.
- ❖ At 10 a.m. today there is a pre-construction meeting on the 1st Street/Bargeway LID project. NW Kodiak Construction will move in equipment later this week.
- ❖ The sewer slipline project is out. This project doesn't affect any other utilities.
- ❖ Trying to get out to bid another water line project on Webber from the S. side of 2nd by the underpass, across 2nd, underneath the RR tracks and ending on the south edge of the Norcor property. Line will be 5 feet deep.
- ❖ Hopefully out this summer will be a project to re-align the existing 4th street grade 8-inch sewer line. Some of this line will be on private property. Survey bid is out now.
- ❖ Manhole rehabilitation project with a pre-construction meeting scheduled for March 4th.
- ❖ Working on the designs for Scenic.
- ❖ The Granada block is still moving forward. No information on the timeline yet but expect a lot of utility locates.

Nathan Pope – Chenoweth PUD

- ❖ Updating 900 feet of water mainline on Verdant between W 8th and W 10th. Project should take about a month and a half.

Herb Watts – North State Telephone/Sunset Peak

- ❖ Installing underground fiber drops in the Dufur area.
- ❖ Removing abandoned facilities in Dufur, Friend and Boyd.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m. Thanks to everyone who attended!

Next month's meeting: March 19th.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Huskey, Secretary