



# MD/DC Damage Prevention Committee

Kevin Woolbright, Chairman  
Mark Hamrick, Vice Chairman  
Susan Sullivan, Secretary

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Minutes of the meeting for June 27, 2023  
Hybrid Meeting hosted by Miss Utility in Hanover, MD  
Prepared by Mark Hamrick

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES

Chairman Kevin Woolbright called the regular monthly meeting to order at 9:32 AM and had everyone in attendance to introduce themselves to the group.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED MAY 23, 2023

Meeting minutes were reviewed, then a motion made by Mark Hamrick (Verizon) to accept the minutes, and Mike Burns (Utiliquest) provided the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Everyone affirmed the prior month's minutes.

*The approved meeting minutes will be posted at <https://www.missutility.net/excavators/>.*

## OPEN DISCUSSION

Sean Paris (Fort Myer Construction) asked if anyone could provide information as to the new Verizon locate contractor now marking in D.C. He stated the company JJB has begun marking 3 weeks ago, and he would like contact information for them. No one from Verizon in attendance was aware that the locate contractor had changed, but stated they would look into it and provide information as soon as they could.

Jeff Hughes (Miller Pipeline) stated he was having difficulties with DC Water and Verizon with getting locates completed. Often times the tickets were being delayed and either not responded to after that, or being placed in a code 5 status without his knowledge or consent. He has attempted to contact the locate companies but has had no success in doing so. George Daffan (Utiliquest) stated that DCI was still marking D.C. Water, so the original contacts should be the same as they were. Heather (DCI) was attending via zoom, and provided contact information for herself and Lawrence. Emails were: [hfowkes@dcihq.com](mailto:hfowkes@dcihq.com) and [lbowlding@dcihq.com](mailto:lbowlding@dcihq.com) telephone numbers provided were Heather at 202-813-6898 and Lawrence at 202-480-4886.

Kate (C.W. and Sons) stated she also needed the contact information and thanked Heather for providing the contact information for DCI.

**OLD BUSINESS** There was no old business brought to the committee.

## NEW BUSINESS

Bill Jackson (Maryland State Highways) had sent a document on the new policy involved for abandoned Utilities within their right of ways. They stated they would be in attendance next month for further discussion on the new policy.

## **GUEST SPEAKERS: ALI PAGNOTTA | JOHN SPENSER | DARIN MONAHAN | UNITED RENTALS TRENCH SAFETY**

The group provided information on trench safety requirements and shoring in particular based upon needs and soil conditions. They provided an overview of the types of shoring that is available, and which types were appropriate in any type of situation. They also touched on current Utility support once they were exposed in an excavation site. They finished the presentation with the types of training they have available for safe excavation, shoring techniques and requirements. Finally, they touched on confined spaces requirements and the types of monitors they provide if needed.

Kevin Woolbright (D.P. chair) asked if they gave specific training on the items they provide. They replied yes, they do, or can provide data sheets for the items as well, or in lieu of the training. A question was also placed on the types of monitors they provide, and they stated the ones shown were continuous operating monitors but could provide static testers as well.

## **MISS UTILITY CALL CENTER**

- Call Center Updates – Jenn Arroyo (One Call Concepts) provided the call center updates stating that the call center has officially discontinued ITIC 2.0 and everyone is now using the new format ITICnxt to process tickets.
- ITICnxt Virtual Training: July 6 @ 2PM Jenn stated that they are still providing virtual training for ITICnxt the next available date would be 7.6.23 beginning at 2:00 p.m. and anyone interested should contact Susan Sullivan. She further mentioned that any utility can process emergency tickets online, but they have to be built into the system, and of course a new user has to have passed the review stage to be able to do so.
- Dashboard Reporting Jenn provided this month's update. Overall, inbound call volumes were up 1% from last month, but down 2% overall year to date. Outbound volumes as of 5/23 were down 2 1/2 % from last month and year to date were down 3.8%
- Damage Reporting Jenn provided the damage report from the previous month and the numbers were average, as they have been for previous months, with no real increases of changes in damage occurrences or overall volumes. Kevin made a plea for more utilities to participate in providing information. Jenn reminded the group that these numbers are what determines where the MD/DC subscribers dedicate the advertising money, so unreported areas does make a big difference.

## **MARYLAND AUTHORITY**

Kevin Woolbright stated Jim Barron (MD Authority) was out of town attending the MML conference, so there would be no report this month from the Authority. He further stated that if anyone was interested in updates, they should go to the MD Authority website.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- 2023 Greater Chesapeake Damage Prevention Training Conference  
Anna Trim (MGH) provided the update for the conference stating everything was going smoothly, and many people were signing up for the conference. Scott Brown (Chairman Subscribers Board) asked for clarification on the change this year in the hotel room booking and the conference being separate this year. Anna responded yes, that was a change, and was to help those who wanted to book other hotels or had their own accommodations in Ocean City. Kevin made mention of the fact, the hotel had been sold,

and there were major renovations being done to the hotel. He further mentioned that those who in the past had thought the accommodations had been a little antiquated, they would be pleasantly surprised at the updates being done. Anna reminded everyone that the conference dates this year are October 24<sup>th</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup> and those interested could go to the Miss Utility website for further information ([missutilityconference.com](http://missutilityconference.com)).

➤ MD/DC Subscribers Committee/BOD

Scott Brown (Chairman Subscribers Board) provided an update that the committee was “moving along” and that this year the group maybe discussing upcoming updates in the Title 12 Law. He stated it had been a couple of years, and there were still things that needed to be updated. More information will be provided as things progress. The next meeting will be July 13<sup>th</sup> at the Call Center.

➤ Damage Prevention & Safety

- Training

Kevin provided updates on past and future training opportunities. He spoke of the training that was given at Cecil County schools stating it was a great event, and that it is always well received and an important factor in teaching damage prevention to those that would soon be joining the workforce.

- Miss Utility Facebook

Anna provided an update for the Miss Utility Facebook and Next-Door initiatives and provided 2 slides of posts they were currently running. She encouraged everyone to go look and participate in Facebook.

- Carvertise

Jenn provided an update with a slide showing the estimated and actual impressions provided by the cars traveling all across Maryland. She stated this continues to be one of the more successful and cost-efficient advertising methods. Jenn asked if anyone saw the cars to please take a photo and send that along for future postings.

➤ MGH Marketing Updates

- Spring Advertising

Anna provided the update stating the radio spots had come to an end, and MGH was now moving into the summer season with more digital posting.

- Touch A Truck

Anna provided that this year’s Touch a Truck event will be on August 5<sup>th</sup> at the Bowie Baysox Stadium. She asked that anyone interested in volunteering in any way, but especially providing equipment for the event should contact them.

- Trade Show Updates

Anna stated the MML conference in Ocean City was currently going on with a number of our group supporting it.

- Scholarship Program

Anna stated they have completed the application process and 280 students had submitted applications. The working group would now be moving into the award stage to vet all the applications and decide the recipients. Scott Brown (Scholarship Committee Chair) stated that each awardee would receive \$1008.11 as a scholarship, and the group would be meeting in July to read each of the submissions and decided who would be receiving the awards. He asked that if anyone would be interesting in helping to get in touch.

- Awards Committee  
Kevin (Awards Committee Chair) stated the Locate Achievement Awards for this year are completed and was a great success again. The group would now shift its attention to the Dig Smart Awards. Applications would be accepted soon and then the group will meet to vet the ones submitted. The committee would be meeting for the post Locate Achievement Award and future Dig Smart Award after today's meeting.

### **CONSTRUCTION ANGELS**

Kevin (Construction Angels Representative) provided updates stating that the 695 accident families were finally wrapping up, and due to everyone's generosity there had been \$130,566.00 raised and distributed above the normal amount that Construction Angels provided. The last amount distributed had been \$21,000.00. He mentioned the Golf tournament fund raiser that will be coming up in the fall, and he will be attending some future venues that he will share next month.

Scott Brown asked if there was any way to possibly reach out to the local new channels to possibly cover the golf event, or to revisit the 695 accident with a follow up of what Constructions Angels and the group had done to help out. Anna (MGH) stated that channel 7 (WBAL) had interviewed Kevin via phone, and Kevin had done a great job informing them of the group's efforts, but agreed they should try to reach out and draw more attention by the other news carriers as well. Scott mentioned that Washington Gas will have an 811-day celebration and invite Kevin to set up a Construction Angel booth at the event.

### **LAST COMMENTS:**

Kevin Woolbright stated that Jim Jennings' 1<sup>st</sup> term on the Authority would be expiring soon, and that he was available for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term. If everyone agreed, the group would be sending a letter to the Governor to extend Jim for a 2<sup>nd</sup> term.

Scott Brown stated that the Authority's Subscriber Seat Representative Tamara Neil's 2<sup>nd</sup> term was about to expire. He thanked Tamara for her dedication and assistance on the Authority, and that an email would be coming soon to the Board members to determine who would be her replacement.

There being no further business brought before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

### **Upcoming 2023 Hybrid MD/DC Damage Prevention & Safety Meetings**

- July 25
- August 22
- September 19\* Please note date change

MEETING ATTENDEES: This was a hybrid meeting. Onsite attendance is below. Accurate Zoom attendance is not available.

ONSITE ATTENDANCE:

|                                    |  |                 |                                   |
|------------------------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| AT&T                               | <b>Angela Johnson</b><br>BOD, Communications Reg                             | (571) 218-9458  | aj1731@att.com                    |
| BGE                                | <b>Marc Haines</b><br>BOD, Electric Rep                                      | (443) 324-0371  | marc.haines@bge.com               |
| Colonial Pipeline Co.              | Scott Moore<br>Right of Way  | (443) 821-1797  | smoore@colpipe.com                |
| Comer Construction                 | Tim Kaptein<br>Director of Safety  | (443) 807-2391  | tkaptein@comerconstruction.com    |
| Construction Angels                | <b>Kevin Woolbright</b><br>DPC Chairman<br>CA Board Representative for MD/DC | (301) 806-8745  | bright.67@verizon.net             |
| Ecotech Hydro Excavation           | Shelly Masone<br>Business Development Director                               | 443-534-6276    | Shelly@goecotech.com              |
| Ferguson Trenching                 | Mary Hill<br>Safety Manager  | (443) 510-9959  | maryh@fergusontrenching.com       |
| Gaines and Company                 | Dominic Pope<br>Safety Director  | (443) 386-1383  | dpope@gainesandco.com             |
| Miller Pipeline                    | Jeffrey H. Hughes<br>Supervisor DC   | (540) 226-7051  | jeffery.hughes@millerpipeline.com |
| One Call Concepts/<br>Miss Utility | Jennifer Arroyo<br>General Manager   | (410) 782- 2101 | jennifer@occinc.com               |
| One Call Concepts/<br>Miss Utility | Matt Ruddo<br>Director, Client Relations                                     | (410) 782-2025  | mruddo@missutility.net            |
| P. Flanigan and Sons               | Shane Boyer<br>Safety Director   | (410) 467-5900  | sboyer@pflanigan.com              |
| P. Flanigan and Sons               | Gianni Iocco<br>Crew Supervisor  | (443) 677-0942  | giocco@pflanigan.com              |
| United Rental Trench Safety        | Darin Monahan<br>Trench Safety Specialist                                    |                 | dmonahan@ur.com                   |
| United Rental Trench Safety        | Ali Pagnotta<br>Trench Safety Specialist                                     |                 | apagnotta@ur.com                  |
| United Rental Trench Safety        | Hayden Parks<br>Trench Safety Specialist                                     |                 |                                   |
| United Rental Trench Safety        | John Spencer<br>Senior Sales Representative                                  |                 | jspencer2@ur.com                  |
| Utiliquest                         | George Daffan<br>Operations Manager  | (301) 399-7975  | george.daffan@utiliquest.com      |
| UtiliQuest                         | Mike Burns<br>Operations Manager   | (443) 786-7994  | mike.burns@utiliquest.com         |
| UtiliQuest                         | Troy Middleton<br>Manager DC   | (571) 835-5400  | troy.middleton@utiliquest.com     |

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|---------|--|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Verizon | Charles Dimattei<br>Damage Investigator Howard<br>County | (410) 960-4216 | charles.dimattei@verizon.com    |
| Verizon | Jeff Sothoron<br>Maryland Miss Utility Compliance        | (240) 446-3778 | jeffrey.p.sothoron@verizon.com  |
| Verizon | John Sisk<br>Damage Investigator AA County               | (410) 960-4216 | jonathan.p.sisk@verizon.com     |
| Verizon | John Williams<br>Damage Investigator Balt County<br>West | (410) 279-2152 | john.x.williams@one.verizon.com |
| Verizon | <b>Mark Hamrick</b><br><b>DPC Vice Chairman</b>          | (410) 610-1371 | mark.a.hamrick@verizon.com      |
| WGL     | Ryan Reese<br>Supervisor, Damage Prevention              | (571) 512-0537 | RReese@washgas.com              |
| WGL     | <b>Scott Brown</b><br><b>BOD Chairman, Gas Reg</b>       | (703) 750-4388 | ssbrown@washgas.com             |