



MD/DC Damage Prevention Committee

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

Minutes of the meeting for August 24, 2021
Hybrid Meeting hosted by Miss Utility in Hanover, MD
Prepared by Susan Sullivan

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Kevin Woolbright called the regular monthly meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom. There were 54 virtual attendees and 7 onsite attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the July 27, 2021, minutes was made by Diane Spriggs (WSSC) and seconded by David Wilkins (WSSC). The motion carried by approval.

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

OLD BUSINESS

- Locator Seat Update: Due to new language under Title 12/Chapter 18, it was determined that Todd Kelly (Anne Arundel County) did not meet the criteria for the locator seat nomination which requires the seat be filled by a member of the facility contract locator community. See 12-107 (b)(5) below.

(5) one member who represents the State's underground [utility] FACILITY CONTRACT locator community from a list submitted to the Governor by the Maryland members of the Maryland/DC Damage Prevention Committee;

- The vote for Todd Kelly was receded. The MD/DC BOD then voted to seat Jimmy Jennings (OCCLS) who was the remaining qualified candidate. Todd Kelly was notified by Kevin Woolbright (DPC Chairman) of the issue surrounding his nomination and he graciously understood that under the language of the new law, he did not qualify. Jimmy Jennings was sent notification by letter that he won the nomination for the Locator Seat of the Maryland Authority.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to report.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Statements from several excavators centered on the negative impact continuing locate delays are having on the excavation community. There were various questions regarding Utiliquest's efforts

to reduce the ongoing back log issues that often require excavators to submit multiple tickets for a locate because they are expiring without being cleared.

Mike Burns and George Daffan (Utiliquest) responded to these inquiries by stating that Utiliquest, in partnership with BGE, continues to hold regular training classes and mentor, train and support recent graduates. They are bringing in locators from outside areas, whenever available, to assist with the back log of tickets. They are also exploring the possibility of bringing in private locators to assist. Marc Haines (BGE) concurred and stated that they are looking into every option available that would aid in handling current ticket volume.

Matt Ruddo (OCC) stated that monthly call volume is up between 25-50% and that continuing pandemic concerns are keeping people out of the workforce. This trend perpetuates staffing issues and puts greater demands on the work force. He suggested the way through this was for stake holders to continuously work together and communicate to resolve locate issues as they present themselves.

Tim Kaptein (Comer Construction) shared that his company has a vac-truck, available for rent, to those who might be interested in this type of non-destructive excavation.

Kevin Woolbright (DPC Chair) wrapped up open discussion by reiterating that when extreme locate issues arise, excavators should contact the contract locator directly with ticket numbers and to document all communications.

MISS UTILITY CALL CENTER

➤ ITICnxt Presentation: Route Tool

- ITICnxt is Miss Utility's new ticketing platform system.
- The Route Tool should be used to define an excavation area when trenching, performing road repair/replacement or other activities where a skinny route needs to be defined.
- When using the Route Tool, a pop-up box appears prompting the user to provide an excavation width that will be measured from the center line of mapping. For example, a width of 10 FT would be 5 FT either side of center. It also prompts the user to define what 'markers' the route will follow and provides a field for additional marking instructions.
- Marking instructions, driving directions and dig site address are auto filled into the appropriate ticket fields during step 2 of ticket processing.
- Multiple locate requests, using multiple tools, can be created during one mapping session.
- Next month's topic: The Other Tool

➤ Dashboard Reporting: Jennifer Arroyo (Miss Utility) provided ticket volume data for the month of July 2021.

- Inbound ticket volume: 90,330 a monthly increase of 10.574% compared to 2020
- Outbound volume: 582,715 a year-to-date increase of 36.786% compared to 2020

- Damage Reporting: Susan Sullivan provided YTD data through July 2021 of reported damages in MD/DC.
 - 517 utility damages (132 mains and 385 services)
 - 29.59% due to no call or valid ticket
 - 32.69% due to hitting a marked line
 - 29.59% due to incorrect locate marks
 - 8.12% due to other root causes

MARYLAND AUTHORITY Jim Barron, Executive Director

There was no Authority Meeting in August.

- The Authority currently has thirty-four (34) NPVs to investigate.
- The following appointments are being submitted to the Governor’s Appointment Office to be seated at the October Authority Meeting:
 - Amber Brengel – Reappointment – PWCA Seat
 - Paul Kwiakowski – Reappointment – MACo Seat
 - Tamara Neal – Reappointment – MD/DC Subscriber’s Committee Seat
 - James Dudley – New Appointment – Public Seat replacing Joyce Brooks
 - James Jennings – New Appointment – Facility Contract Locator Seat, replacing Erik Phillips
- The MD Authority mobile app will be released once bugs are fixed.
- The Authority has submitted its 2020 Adequacy Review to PHMSA.
- The Authority participated in and had a booth at the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) Conference in Ocean City on August 18 - 21, 2021.

The next meeting of the Authority will be a Closed Executive Session on Wednesday, September 1, 2021, at 9:00 AM on Zoom.

MD TITLE 12/CHAPTER 18 Presented by Jim Barron, Executive Director MD Authority
Presentation: Section 12-127: Excavation After Notice that Facilities Marked or Not in Vicinity.
Jim presented a review of section 12-127. The following information was shared via a slide and discussion followed.

§12-127. Excavation after notice that facilities marked or not in vicinity.

- (a) “A person that intends to perform excavation or demolition may begin excavation or demolition activity only after the person receives notification from the underground facilities information exchange system...that all owner-members or their contract locators have:”
 - (1) “marked their underground facilities in accordance with §12-126 (c) of this subtitle”
(within 2 business days of ticket transmission or within the 24 or 48 hour delay)
 - (2) “marked the applicable portion of their underground facilities in accordance with §12-126 (d) of this subtitle, or” (the contractor and the owner-member or its contract locator are working under a ‘Document Agreement’ or the owner-member or its contractor is marking the site where the excavator or demolition will first occur and shall mark the remainder of the site in a reasonable time)
 - (3) “reported that they have no underground facilities in the vicinity of the excavation or demolition.” (§12-126 (c) (2))

- (b) (1) "...the person performing the excavation or demolition is responsible for the maintenance of the designated mark."
 (2) "If the mark is obliterated, destroyed or removed, the person:
 (i) shall repeat the notification required under §12-125 of this subtitle; but
 (ii) may not in any manner replace or repair the mark."
- (c) (1) "A person performing excavation or demolition...shall have a copy of the ticket issued by the one-call system available, by any means, on the site of the activity for the duration of the ticket." (This subsection also creates the ability to add a Temporary Excavator to a ticket. This function is not yet available so we will discuss this process and applicable requirements at a later date once the function is available when establishing a ticket.)
 (2) "A person performing an excavation or demolition shall exercise due care to avoid interference with or damage to an underground facility:
 (i) that an owner-member or its contractor locator has marked in accordance with §12-126 of this subtitle; or
 (ii) where clear evidence or an unmarked underground facility exists."
 (3) "Before using mechanized equipment...within 18 inches of an underground facility marking, a person shall expose the underground facility to its outermost surfaces by hand or other nondestructive techniques." (first tolerance zone)
 (4) "When utilizing a trenchless technology method, to prevent the occurrence of a cross-bore, a person shall expose by nondestructive techniques intersecting underground facilities to the depth of the excavation plus 18 inches in the path of the trenchless technology operation during the entire trenchless installation operation."
 (5) "A person may not use mechanized equipment to excavate within 18 inches of the outermost surface of an exposed underground facility." (second tolerance zone)
- (d) (1) "The person performing an excavation or demolition shall promptly report to the owner-member of the facility if the person discovers or cause any damage to or dislocation or disturbance of an underground facility in connection with the excavation or demolition."
 (2) "If the damage, dislocation, or disturbance results in the escape of flammable, toxic, or corrosive gas or liquid, the person performing the excavation or demolition immediately shall report the damage to the 9-1-1 emergency system."
- (e) (1) "If a person knows or has reason to know that an underground facility in the area of the planned or ongoing excavation or demolition is not marked as required by this subtitle, the person may not begin or continue the excavation or demolition unless the person:
 (i) has repeated the notification as required under §12-125 of this subtitle; and
 (ii) receives notification...that all applicable owner-members that have underground facilities in the vicinity of the excavation or demolition have marked:
 (1) the underground facilities in accordance with §12-126 (c) of this subtitle; or
 (marking after notice or delay)
 (2) the applicable portion of the underground facilities in accordance with §12-126 (d) of this subtitle."
 (marking with document agreement or proceed without)
 (2) "If the underground facility is not marked as required by this subtitle after the person receives notification from the underground facilities information exchange system under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the person may proceed with the excavation or demolition."

However (1) don't forget the "Due Care" language under §12-127 (c) (2) and also under Section §12-120 (a) "...a person that obtains the information required under this subtitle is not excused from: (1) performing an excavation or demolition in a careful and prudent manner; and (2) liability for financial damages or injury that results from the excavation or demolition."

Next month's topic: Owner Member Requirements 12-126

Upcoming topics: Excavator Responsibilities and the Ticket 12-124

2021 GREATER CHESAPEAKE DAMAGE PREVENTION TRAINING CONFERENCE

Matt Ruddo, Chairman (OCC)

- Dates: October 26-29
- Location: Clarion Resort Fontainebleau Hotel in Ocean City, MD
- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Bertice Berry
- Early bird registration runs through September 6.
- The Exhibit Hall is at capacity.
- There are approximately 200 registered attendees thus far.
- For more information, please visit www.missutilityconference.com

The next planning committee meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2021.

DAMAGE PREVENTION AND SAFETY

- Training - Coordinator, Susan Sullivan (Miss Utility)
 - DPT Completed:
 - August 13 – Virtual Open
 - DPT Upcoming:
 - August 27 – Baltimore Tree Trust
 - September 7 – L.S. Lee
 - September 8 – Charles County DPW
 - September 15 – American Society of Civil Engineers: Susan Sullivan guest speaker
- National Conference
 - CGA Conference & Expo
 - October 12-15 at the Renaissance, Orlando at Sea World
 - OCC and the MD/DC BOD will be represented.
 - Attendance is open to all.
 - For more information, please visit <https://cgaconference.com/>
- Miss Utility Facebook
 - Please visit www.facebook.com/missutilityofmd/ for upcoming shows, holiday announcements, and call center notices/information.



- Carvertise Marketing Metrics reported by Susan Sullivan, Miss Utility
 - Nine wrapped cars currently travel throughout Montgomery, Prince George, Charles, Allegany, Garrett and Baltimore Counties, Baltimore City and Washington D.C.
 - Quantitative Performance Data for the month of July:
 - Miles traveled by fleet: 13,589 (2,789 above expectation)
 - Impressions per fleet: 1,983,976 (482,776 above expectation)

2021 AWARDS COMMITTEE Mark Hamrick, Chairman

This program recognizes Maryland and D.C. contractors for outstanding safety practices.

- The 2020-2021 entry form closed on Aug. 20.
- Sixteen (16) entries were received.
- The committee to select winners on Sept. 14.
- Winning companies will receive two complimentary two-night packages to the 2021 GCDPTC in Ocean City this October, where they will be recognized by industry peers.

The next committee meeting is scheduled for Sept. 14 and will be held virtually.

MGH MARKETING & OUTREACH TEAM UPDATE

Reported by Gaby Tancona

- Trade Show Updates
 - Miss Utility will be participating in the Chesapeake Region Safety Council Conference & Expo on October 7th and the CGA Conference & Expo, October 12-15.
 - The Allegany County All Things Home Expo (Oct. 8-10) has been postponed until March 2022.
- Digital Marketing Campaign
 - Ads on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, NextDoor and Google Search have achieved more than 5 million impressions to date.

CONSTRUCTION ANGELS

Kevin Woolbright, CA Board Representative for MD/DC

- The Miss Utility of Delmarva third annual 811 5K fundraiser was held August 15th in Lewes, Delaware, where approximately 65 children and adults participated.
- OCC was an event sponsor with Miss Utility hosting a booth. The OCC 811 Trike was also on hand to help promote damage prevention awareness.
- All proceeds from the 5K will be donated to local Construction Angels chapters where funds can be used locally to assist families of construction workers who have lost their lives while on the jobsite.

There being no further business brought before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

Upcoming 2021-2022 MD/DC Damage Prevention & Safety Meetings via Zoom

- September 28
- November 23
- January 25

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

On-Site Attendees

Construction Angels	Kevin Woolbright DPC Chairman CA Board Representative for MD/DC	(301) 806-8745	bright.67@verizon.net
MGH	Gabriella Gaby Tancona Public Relations	(410) 902-5025	gtancona@mghus.com
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Jennifer Arroyo General Manager		jennifer@occinc.com
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Matt Ruddy Director, Client Relations	(410) 782-2025	matt@missutility.net
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Susan Sullivan ITIC Coordinator	(410) 782-2030	ssullivan@missutility.net
Verizon	Mark Hamrick DPC Vice Chairman Damage Investigator	(410) 610-1371	mark.a.hamrick@verizon.com
WSSC	David Wilkins BOD, Water/Sewer Rep Customer Advocate	(301) 648-6953	david.wilkins@wsscwater.com