



MD/DC Damage Prevention Committee

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

Minutes of the meeting for August 23, 2022
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 9:31 AM via Zoom. There were thirty-one (31) virtual attendees and fourteen (14) onsite attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the July 26, 2022, was made by Shelley Welling (Gray & Son) 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

No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to report.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mark Haines (BGE) stated that BGE now has three (3) in-house locators conducting BGE locates in addition to contract locators HBK and Utiliquest. They are currently locating electric and fiber optic. They are statusing through Utiliquest for now, but more detailed information can be obtained by calling the Marking Concerns number.

Shelly Welling (Gray & Son) asked if the newly legislated Select Start Date option is affecting locates/locators. George Daffan (Utiliquest) responded that it is mainly homeowners extending the Response Due By date. He continued by stating that Utiliquest wants to complete received locates as soon as possible regardless of an extended RDB date. Jenn Arroyo (Miss Utility) shared raw data indicating that 2% of tickets are extending the RDB date with an 85-hour average delay. Jenn also shared that Systems is making adjustments to better accommodate the Select Start Date option.

Wen Liang (Anchor Construction) thanked locators for good communication skills and encourages all locators to leave their names and number to better collaborate with excavators.

Lisa Hurley (SMECO) asked about Emergency Ticket response time. Jim Barron (Maryland Authority) reviewed Title §12–121. Response time language is included below for convenience. To read Title 12

in its entirety, please visit:

<https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgaweb/Laws/StatuteText?article=gpu§ion=12-101&enactments=false>

- (c) (1) *The owner–member or its contract locator shall:*
- (i) *respond to an emergency notice as soon as possible but not later than 2 hours from the transmission of the ticket from the one–call center; and*
 - (ii) *except for circumstances beyond an owner–member’s or contract locator’s control and for municipal corporations, considering the hours of operation and availability of employees:*
 - 1. *begin the locating process to mark their respective underground facility or facilities within 3 hours after the transmission of the ticket; or*
 - 2. *if the facility owner has no underground facilities within the delineated excavation area, clear the ticket within 3 hours after the transmission of the ticket.*
- (2) *The person responsible for the excavation shall be on site or in communication with the owner–member, their contract locator, or their representative within 3 hours after the transmission of the ticket by the one–call center, or a mutually agreed response time.*
- (3) *The owner–member or its contract locator shall respond to the underground facilities information exchange system as soon as:*
- (i) *the extent of work is marked; or*
 - (ii) *it is determined that no underground facilities are in the delineated area.*

David Ball (Howard County DPW) inquired about MD Title 12 and directional boring requirements in reference to a recent damage. This led to a lengthy discussion with multiple responses and follow up comments. The following Title 12 references were made:

- **Title §12–127 (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 contract locator has marked in accordance with § 12–126 of this subtitle; or
 - (ii) where clear evidence of an unmarked underground facility exists.
- **Title §12–127 (3)** Before using mechanized equipment for excavation or demolition 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.
- **Title §12–127 (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.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Jim Barron stated that any damage claim (Notice of Probable Violation) made to the Maryland Authority is investigated and fault determined on a case-by-case basis, as necessary.

Derek Rhodes (UGI Utilities) asked for the definition of clear evidence. Per Maryland’s Title §12–101 (d) “Clear evidence” means a visible indication that an underground facility or structure is not marked as required in § 12–126 of this subtitle.

- Examples given by attendees included: valve boxes, pedestals, fire hydrants.

MISS UTILITY CALL CENTER

- Updates
 - No updates to report.
- ITICnxt Virtual Training
 - WSMD/DC: September 1
 - DE/ESMD: September 2 & 23
- Dashboard Reporting: Susan Sullivan (Miss Utility) provided ticket volume data for the month of July 2022.
 - Inbound ticket volume: 75,573 a monthly decrease of 16.337% compared to 2021
 - Outbound volume: 387,520 a year-to-date decrease of 26.318% compared to 2021
- Damage Reporting: Susan Sullivan provided YTD data through July 2022 of reported damages in MD/DC.
 - 525 utility damages (121 mains and 404 services)
 - 31.43% due to no call or valid ticket
 - 33.33% due to hitting a marked line
 - 28.19% due to incorrect locate marks
 - 7.05% due to other root causes

MARYLAND AUTHORITY Jim Barron, Executive Director

- There was an Open Authority Meeting and a Closed Executive Authority Zoom Meeting on August 3, 2021.
 - The Authority reviewed twelve (12) NPVs.
 - There are thirty-four (34) new NPVs to investigation and review.
 - The Authority:
 - Attended and had a booth at the MACo Conference, August 17-20, 2022,
 - Executed a Digital Media Services Agreement for maintenance on the Android and IOS Mobile Apps,
 - Authorized a \$750.00 Beverage Cart Sponsorship for the 2022 Miss Utility/Construction Angels Golf Outing on October 14, 2022,
 - Agreed to donate 100 Authority Safety Vests to the 2022 Touch-A-Truck,
 - Is considering possible Legislation in 2023, with the decision to be made after the November election,
 - Is considering moving their monthly meetings to the 2nd Wednesday of each month instead of the 1st Wednesday of each month.
- The following Authority Seats expire on September 30, 2022:
 - AUC of MD Seat – David Gaines – Eligible for a 2nd Term
 - Subscriber Seat – Michael Jewell – Terms Out,
 - One Call Seat – Kelly Ruddo – Terms Out, and
 - MML Seat – Dereck Shreves – Terms Out, and
 - Hopes to resume Formal Hearings, face-to-face in November 2022.

The next meeting will be a Zoom Closed Executive Session on September 7, 2022.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2022 GCDPTC UPDATE Matt Ruddo, Chairman (OCC)

- GCDPTC Save the Date Contest: Ends August 26th.
- Conference dates: October 25th -28th at Ocean City's Fontainebleau Resort
- Early Bird registration runs through August 28th.
- 180 registrations to date.
- Exhibit Hall is at 99% capacity. Sponsorships are still available.
- For more information, please visit www.missutilityconference.com.

The next planning committee meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2022.

DAMAGE PREVENTION AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Kevin Woolbright, Chairman | Mark Hamrick Co-Chair

- Training - Coordinator, Susan Sullivan (Miss Utility)
 - DPT Upcoming:
 - August 30 – Onsite @ Precision Utility Construction
 - September 9 - VDPT
 - September 12 – Onsite @ Sagres
 - October 7- Onsite @ Miss Utility Call Center
 - November 4 – VDPT
 - November 18 – VDPT in Spanish

Onsite and Spanish Damage Prevention Training is now available. Please reach out to Susan for more information.

- Miss Utility Facebook

Please visit www.facebook.com/missutilityofmd/ for dig safe posts, holiday announcements, call center notices/information and current events. Please like or share posts to show your support for Miss Utility and the dig safe message.



- 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: 12,719 (4,619 above expectation)
 - Impressions per fleet: 1,856,974 (674,374 above expectation)

MGH REPORTS Reported by Gaby Lothamer

- Digital Advertising
 - Facebook ads are currently running that target both English and Spanish-speaking excavators.



- Launching in September: A Nextdoor campaign to target homeowners throughout Maryland and D.C.

➤ 811 Day

- Aug. 11 or 8/11 on the calendar serves as a reminder for homeowners and excavators to always contact 811 before they dig.
- This year, to get the attention of local TV/radio stations and encourage them to mention Miss Utility and 8/11 Day, Miss Utility dropped off cakes to multiple newsrooms which resulted in numerous mentions.
 - WBAL-TV (NBC Baltimore)
 - WBFF-TV (FOX Baltimore)
 - FOX Sports 980 (D.C. Radio)
 - The Sports Junkies (106.7 FM - D.C. Radio)
- In addition, a live locate segment with WJLA-TV (ABC D.C.) and Washington Gas' Scott Brown, highlighted the importance of contacting 811.
- And finally, social posts across Facebook, Instagram and Twitter from mentioned stations and their newscasters reached 249,000 + followers.

➤ Touch A Truck

- The 2022 Touch a Truck event is taking place Saturday, August 27 at the Bowie Baysox Stadium.
- This free event offers an opportunity for families to explore heavy machinery and vehicles in a safe space, enjoy music, participate in games and more!
- Game tickets are available for \$8.11 (usually \$16) at missutilitytouchatruck.com
- If interested in providing a vehicle for the event, please email missutilitytouchatruck@gmail.com.

➤ Trade Show Updates

- Miss Utility sponsored a booth at last week's MACo Summer Conference (Aug. 17-20).
- The final 2022 trade show is the Chesapeake Region Safety Council Conference & Expo (Oct. 6) where Miss Utility will have a booth.

- Minor League Baseball
 - Miss Utility had booths most recently at the Aberdeen IronBirds - Friday, Aug. 19 & Sunday, Aug. 21, and the Bowie Baysox - Saturday, Aug. 27.
- 2022 Dig Smart Awards Committee Mark Hamrick, Chairman
 - The 2021-2022 Dig Smart Awards application is now closed. The committee appreciates everyone who submitted a nomination.
 - Winners will be recognized on Friday, October 28th at the Greater Chesapeake Damage Prevention Training Conference.

CONSTRUCTION ANGELS

Kevin Woolbright, CA Board Representative for MD/DC

Construction Angels is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Corporation that provides immediate financial assistance and grief counseling to the children and spouse left behind when a construction worker has a fatality on the job site.

- The 2022 CA Tournament will take place on Friday, October 14, 2022, at the Hampshire Greens Golf Course in Ashton, Maryland.
- Please visit <https://www.constructionangels.us/maryland-events/> and click on the Event tab to register and/or learn more about sponsorship opportunities and event information.
- If you are interested in volunteering, please email Kevin or Susan directly.
- CA Scholarship Update: No one from Maryland or DC sent in a CA Scholarship Application again this year. Monies allocated for our region will now be sent to other represented regions for distribution.

Upcoming 2022 Hybrid MD/DC Damage Prevention & Safety Meetings

- September 27
- October (GCDPTC: No meeting)
- November 22

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

ONSITE ATTENDANCE

Anchor Construction	Wen Liang VP	(703) 927-3807	wliang@anchorconst.com
Anchor Construction	Edisson Bracho Dispatcher and Miss Utility Coordinator	(202) 322-9378	ebracho@anchorconst.com
Comer Construction	Tim Kaptein Director of Safety	(443) 807-2391	tkaptein@comerconstruction.com
Construction Angels	Kevin Woolbright DPC Chairman CA Board Representative for MD/DC	(301) 806-8745	bright.67@verizon.net
Gray & Son	Shelly Welling Safety Specialist	(410) 771-4311	swelling@graynson.com

Howard County DPW	David Ball Supervisor/Damage Prevention	(410) 313-3052	dball@howardcountymd.gov
Howard County Bureau of Utilities	David Watts Operations Superintendent	(410) 313-4971	dwatts@howardcountymd.gov
MGH	Gaby Lothamer PR & Marketing Senior Account Executive	(410) 902-5025	glothamer@mghus.com
MUFDPA	Jim Barron Executive Director	(410) 782-2102	jim.barron@mddpa.org
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Jennifer Arroyo General Manager	(410) 782- 2101	jennifer@occinc.com
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Susan Sullivan DPC Secretary DP Education and Training Liaison	(410) 782-2030	ssullivan@missutility.net
Verizon	Mark Hamrick DPC Vice Chairman Damage Investigator	(410) 610-1371	mark.a.hamrick@verizon.com
Verizon	Charles Dimattei Damage Investigator Howard County	(410) 960-4216	charles.dimattei@verizon.com
Verizon	John Sisk Damage Investigator Anne Arundel County	(410) 960-4216	jonathan.p.sisk@one.verizon.com