



MD/DC Damage Prevention Committee

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

Minutes of the meeting for March 22, 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 9:30 AM via Zoom. There were forty-eight (48) virtual attendees and eight (8) onsite attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the February 22, 2022, minutes was made by Mark Hamrick (Vice Chairman) and seconded by Diane Spriggs (WSSC). The motion carried by approval.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Dora Parks to guest speak during April's DPC meeting with a Utility Defenders update.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business to report.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Tim Captein (Comer) asked about meeting in person again. Jennifer Arroyo (Miss Utility) responded by saying that although everyone is eager to meet face-to-face again, there are safety factors to consider that continue the need for virtual meetings until further notice.

Scott Moore (Colonial Gas) gave a shout out to Matt Ruddo (OCC) for the GCDPTC article published in the Spring 2022 issue of dp-PRO and congratulated Dora Parks on her March 2021 Damage Prevention Hero nomination and article.

Kevin Woolbright (DP Chair) thanked both Utiliquest and David Wilkins (WSSC) for the professionalism and assistance demonstrated during a recent property locate.

Lisa Hurley (SMECO) shared concerns about statuses reading 'Marked' by various communication utilities but finding no corresponding paint, as well as statuses reading 'Clear/No conflict' when there is clear evidence present. She noted that discrepancies are being filed to no avail. George Daffan (Utiliquest) stated that he was not aware of these issues and to forward similar concerns directly to Utiliquest moving forward.

MISS UTILITY CALL CENTER

- Ticket Format Update: The new ticket format went live February 23. This new formatting includes two (2) non-excavation ticket types and three (3) temporary excavator ticket fields.
- ITICnxt: The next ITICnxt Virtual Training is scheduled for April 1st. Please contact Susan (ssullivan@missutility.net) for pre-registration information. Next month's meeting will include a brief ITICnxt presentation on the new ticket types and fields.
- Dashboard Reporting: Jennifer Arroyo (Miss Utility) provided ticket volume data for the month of February 2022.
 - Inbound ticket volume: 70,734 a monthly increase of 7.507% compared to 2021.
 - Outbound ticket volume: 372,476 a year-to-date decrease of 18.924% compared to 2021.
- Damage Reporting: Susan Sullivan provided YTD data through February 2022 of reported damages in MD/DC.
 - 55 utility damages (13 mains and 42 services)
 - 27.27% due to no call or valid ticket
 - 30.91% due to hitting a marked line
 - 32.73% due to incorrect locate marks
 - 9.09% due to other root causes

MARYLAND AUTHORITY Jim Barron, Executive Director

- There was no Authority Meeting in March.
 - The Authority has forty-eight (48) new NPVs to investigation and review.
- The Authority:
 - Emergency Legislation, SB 464 and HB 350 to put mandatory training back into Title XII have both been voted out of the House and Senate and sent to the respective committees in each corresponding chamber.
 - Self-Select Work Date Legislation, SB 789 and HB 994 have both been voted out the House and Senate with amendments and sent to the respective committees in each corresponding chamber.
 - Is working on a website portal that will be used to house meeting documents for Authority Members and Documents and Evidence for future Zoom hearings.
 - Jim Barron will be presenting at the County Engineers Association of Maryland's Conference on April 14, 2022.
 - Is currently preparing the 2022/23 PHMSA State Damage Prevention Grant Application to be submitted in April.

The next meeting of the Authority will be a Zoom Open Meeting with a Closed Executive Session on April 13, 2022.

MD TITLE 12 Jim Barron, Executive Director MD Authority
Presentation - §12-130. Primary Contractors and Temporary Excavators

§12-101. – Definitions

(w) “Primary contractor” means the person that:

- (1) initiates the notification to the one-call system to establish a ticket;
- (2) performs excavation duties for the duration of the ticket; and
- (3) is on site to supervise all activities, employees, and any temporary excavator added to the valid ticket as required in § 12-130(b) of this subtitle.

(x) “Temporary excavator” means a person that the primary contractor may identify and add as a subcontracting excavator to an existing ticket under § 12-130(c) of this subtitle.

§12-124. – Notice to the one-call system

(a) Before performing excavation or demolition in the State, a person:

- (1) **SHALL** initiate a ticket request by notifying the one-call system serving the geographic area where the excavation or demolition is to be performed; and
- (2) may add a temporary excavator to an existing ticket.

§12-130. – Primary contractors and Temporary Excavators

“This section applies to a primary contractor that:

- performs the excavation duties for the duration of a ticket;
- initiates the notification to the one-call system to establish a ticket;
- is on site to supervise all activities and employees; and
- intends to utilize services or equipment of a temporary excavator.”

“A primary contractor... **SHALL**:

- notify the one-call system when a temporary excavator is to begin work...;
- inform the temporary excavator of the exact scope of work as detailed on the existing ticket;
- directly supervise the on-site activities of the temporary excavator; and
- assume all liability if damage should occur to an underground facility by any person named as a temporary excavator on the existing ticket...”
- “...only one temporary excavator...” can be named “...for the duration of the ticket.”
- “...a primary contractor does not include a private homeowner...”

“A temporary excavator may be:

- a piece of rental equipment and its operator;
- an excavation contractor that is not an employee of the primary contractor; or
- an equipment operator that is not a direct employee of the primary contractor.”
- “The designated temporary excavator shall notify the one-call system with the associated ticket number to verify that the excavator has been hired to work for the primary contractor.”

Jennifer Arroyo shared that adding a temporary excavator to a primary contractor’s ticket requires proper ticket documentation. A temporary excavator can be added during initial ticket processing or added any time prior to a valid ticket’s expiration. This can be accomplished using ITIC or by calling into the call center. The temporary excavator acceptance is set to “No” until and unless the temporary excavator acknowledges the assignment through a link sent by email. The assigned temporary excavator must respond in the affirmative before the process can be considered

complete. Once affirmed, the acknowledgement field on the ticket changes to ‘Yes’ and the temporary excavator may proceed under the supervision of the primary contractor until the ticket expires. Only one (1) temporary excavator may be added to a ticket at a time. Once the ticket expires, the process must be repeated.

Jason Lewis (USIC) noted that the temporary excavator’s response is on the ticket.

David Ball (Howard County DPW) asked if a homeowner ticket should be marked if it is called in on behalf of a contractor. The response was that the locator should contact the homeowner directly for clarification. He also asked if homeowners are charged for locates. It was noted that the locate request with Miss Utility is always free, but that Title XII law does allow certain entities to collect marking fees. Please see Title 12-128 for more information.

Becky Mellinger (Childs Landscape) asked for clarification on how a temporary excavator can respond to a temporary request by a primary excavator. This can be accomplished **only** by responding to the temporary excavator request that is sent via email.

Bill Jackson (MDOT) asked when No Response statuses will start if the Self Select Start Date legislation passes. It was explained that the Response Due By and the Expiration date will be based on the Self Select Start Date.

April Title XII topic: TBD

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2022 GCDPTC UPDATE Matt Ruddo, Chairman (OCC)

- Conference dates: October 25th -28th, 2022
- Keynote Speaker: Spencer Beach who, “By using his expert story-telling and amazing sense of humor, will ignite the audience to believing in the power of help.”
- GCDPTC Save the Date Contest
 - Register for updates by emailing 2022gcdptc@gmail.com for your chance to win a two-night package to the 2022 GCDPTC!
- Save the Date email went out March 8.
- Returning attendee registration email set to go out April 18th.
- For more information, please visit www.missutilityconference.com.

The next planning committee meeting is scheduled for April 26, 2022.

MD/DC SUBSCRIBERS COMMITTEE & BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Scott Brown, Chairman

- The next hybrid meeting date has changed and is now scheduled for April 15, 2022, at 10:00 AM.

DAMAGE PREVENTION AND SAFETY

- Training - Coordinator, Susan Sullivan (Miss Utility)
 - DPT Completed:
 - March 9 & 16 –Mott MacDonald (Virtual)

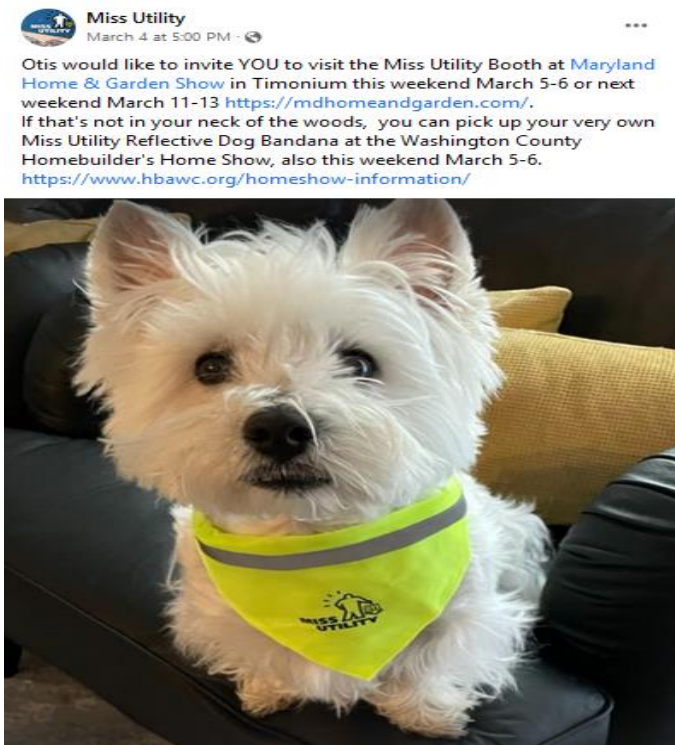
- DPT Upcoming:
 - March 23 – Flippo
 - March 28 – DVORAK
 - April 12 - Montgomery County Parks
 - April 22 – Virtual DPT
 - May 13 – Virtual **SPANISH** DPT

➤ 2022 National Conferences

- GESC: Feedback:
 - The conference was well attended.
 - Communication sessions were good but needed to be crafted more towards damage prevention.
 - Vendor hall was sold out.
 - John Brix had a powerful message about the *Power of Don't*.
 - Overall session content was good and included a session on water and sewer.
 - Sessions were geared more toward call centers and vendors and less toward utilities.
- CGA: April 4 - 8, 2022 in Anaheim, CA
 - OCC will sponsor and attend both conferences.
 - All stakeholders are welcome to attend.

➤ 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 February:
 - Miles traveled by fleet: 12,004 (3,904 above expectation)
 - Impressions per fleet: 1,758,584 (569,984 above expectation)

MGH REPORTS Reported by Gaby Lothamer

- 2022 Awards Committee
 - Locator Achievement Awards
 - 43 locators will be recognized at the Locator Achievement Awards Banquet for maintaining faultless safety and damage prevention practices in 2021
 - Dig Smart Awards
 - The 2021-2022 Dig Smart Awards application will launch this summer.

The next scheduled meeting will take place April 26 immediately following the GCDPTC meeting.

➤ Marketing Update

Spring Advertising and National Safe Digging Month

- Statewide radio campaign kicked off yesterday
 - Includes Spanish-language ads in DC and Baltimore, plus DJ endorsements from Chepe on El Zol.
 - Messages target excavators and homeowners.
- NextDoor campaign reminding homeowners to contact Miss Utility launching this spring as well.
- National Safe Digging Month is coming up!
 - MGH will be issuing a press release about Gov. Hogan's proclamation.
 - FYI: CGA data indicates 58% of Americans will dig this spring, but 49% will not contact 811 first.

➤ Tradeshow Updates

- Earlier this month, Miss Utility participated in the:
 - Washington County Home Builders Home Show
 - Maryland Spring Home & Garden Show
 - Maryland Asphalt Association & Maryland State Highway Administration Annual Paving Conference

Those interested in volunteering for future events can contact Susan Sullivan at ssullivan@missutility.net or Gaby Lothamer at glothamer@mghus.com.

➤ 2022 Scholarship Program

- The 2022 Miss Utility/District One Call scholarship is now open!
- The deadline to apply is Friday, May 27 at 11:59 p.m.
- The online application can be found at <https://form.jotform.com/MissUtility/Scholarship22>
- Please promote the scholarship program by sharing within your networking communities.
- For more information, please visit <https://www.missutility.net/miss-utility-scholarship/>.

CONSTRUCTION ANGELS

Kevin Woolbright, CA Board Representative for MD/DC

- The last Zoom call was March 15. Various activities were discussed including golf and cornhole. Kevin will be reaching out to MD/DC Board for sponsorship.
- CA fund-raising initiatives are always welcome. Please contact Kevin at bright.67@verizon.net with ideas, questions, or volunteer opportunities.

There being no further business brought before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:13 AM.

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

- April 26
- May 24
- June 28

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
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Jennifer Arroyo General Manager		jennifer@occinc.com
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Matt Ruddo Director, Client Relations	(410) 782-2025	matt@missutility.net
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Susan Sullivan BOD/DPC Secretary DP Training and Education Liaison	(410) 782-2030	ssullivan@missutility.net
NPL	James Carey	(571) 921-0210	jc Carey@gonpl.com
Verizon	Mark Hamrick DPC Vice Chairman Damage Investigator	(410) 610-1371	mark.a.hamrick@verizon.com
Washington Gas	Scott Brown BOD President, Gas Rep	(703) 750-4388	ssbrown@washgas.com
WSSC	David Wilkins BOD, Water/Sewer Rep Customer Advocate	(301) 648-6953	david.wilkins@wsscwater.com