



MD/DC Damage Prevention Committee

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

Minutes of the meeting for February 28, 2023
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 9:33 AM. There were twenty-eight (28) attendees onsite and thirty-one (31) virtual attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the January 24, 2023, minutes was made by David Wilkins (WSSC) and seconded by Shelly Masone (Ecotech). The motion carried by approval.

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

OPEN DISCUSSION

Mary Hill (Ferguson Trenching): Kudos to Erik Phillips (Utiliquest) for his assistance in resolving a recent locate issue.

Mitzi Ambush (Pepco): Bringing attention to the high number of emergency tickets due to 48-hour delays which does not constitute an emergency. Contractors need to be aware that according to Maryland's Title §12-101 Dig Law:

- (k) "Emergency" means a sudden or unexpected occurrence involving a clear and imminent danger demanding immediate action to prevent or mitigate loss of, or injury to, life, health, property, or an essential public service.
- Please review Title §12-121 for details related to emergency ticket duties and responsibilities.

Ian Jones (BGE) stated that as of March 15th, Cecil and Harford Counties will transition from contract locate company HBK to USIC. Contact information will be sent out when it becomes available.

Willy Brown (D&D Drilling) asked what he should do about a couple of tickets that had not received statuses even after the Response Due By Date. George Daffan (Utiliquest) was able to pull up three tickets with no responses. Willy appreciated the feedback even though he was speaking about a different contract locator.

Wen Liang (Anchor) asked about the high number of 48-hour delays (per the discussion earlier) and asked if anyone could speak to the causes and what excavators can do to alleviate the issue. Numerous responses were provided as to causes: Difficulties finding an underground facility, unable to locate, personnel issues, poor weather conditions, traffic concerns, mismarks and emergency

tickets taking locators away from a jobsite were named as main causes. Building positive relationships with area locators, exchanging names, emails, and phone numbers are all great ways to communicate when concerns arise. Attending DPC meetings regularly to network is highly recommended as well. A BGE DP hotline is available @ 410-470-6200. Wen stated that Anchor is able to assist with traffic control.

Erik Phillips: Utiliquest's staffing is good at 97-98%. Most 48-hour delays are due to locates that require multiple locators and locates that are large in scope. Locators currently work weekends and overtime to help aid in reducing delays.

Regina Lumpkin (NPL) stated that she is receiving Clear/No Conflict responses from companies that are on NPL jobsites. When this occurs, discrepancies should be processed. When no response is provided, direct contact with the utility or their contract locator is necessary.

Mark Hamrick (Verizon) introduced Jeff Sothoron (Verizon), who will take Mark's place as the DPC and Subscriber Representative when Mark retires in July.

Tom Reynolds (Commercial Utilities): While working in Baltimore City, and digging 15ft away from marks, a damage occurred while digging near a streetlight. What can be done to avoid similar situations in the future? Ian Jones recommended contacting the utility or their contract locator directly when in doubt about a locate. He also stressed the importance of sound documentation and the taking of pictures while active on a worksite. Filing an NPV is an option as well if there is no response or follow through from those responsible.

OLD BUSINESS

Kevin Woolbright, MD/DC's Damage Prevention Chairman, stated that with the upcoming retirement of Damage Prevention Committee Vice Chairman, Mark Hamrick, July 1, the Vice Chairman Position will be vacated. Anyone interested in this position, should email Susan Sullivan (DPC Secretary) with information detailing who you are, what you currently do in the industry, and previous damage prevention or leadership participation by March 24th. All interested parties will have an opportunity to address the DP Committee and MD/DC Board Members and attendees during the March DP Meeting. All nominees will then be considered during the April MD/DC Subscriber's and BOD Meeting with recommendations being made. Kevin will then announce the new Vice Chairman during April's DPC meeting. For more information about the position, please contact Kevin at bright.67@verizon.net.

Please consider guest speaking at a future DPC meeting. Showcase your company's damage prevention practices, highlight your company's role in the damage prevention process or feature your company's damage prevention tools or equipment. Other safety related topics will be considered. Dig Smart Award winners are encouraged to present. Please contact Susan if interested in presenting or would like to recommend someone you know would be interested in presenting. The DP Committee thanks Erik Phillips' (Utiliquest) offer to present in March.

2023 National Conference

- Common Ground Alliance
 - April 17-21, 2023
 - Orlando, Florida
 - <https://www.cgaconference.com/>
- MD/DC Board Members as well as OCC leadership, will be in attendance for this conference.

Bill Jackson (MDOT SHA) sent the following information via Zoom Chat:

- We are moving away from abandonment of utilities in our ROW. Please see [roads.maryland.gov - Business/Utility Center/2021 MDOT SHA Utility Manual Deactivated or taken-out-of-service utilities](https://www.roads.maryland.gov/OOC/MDOTSHAUtilityManual.pdf)
<https://www.roads.maryland.gov/OOC/MDOTSHAUtilityManual.pdf> Section 6.14
- Abandoned or Abandonment: In the past, this term was used to denote utility facilities that were deactivated or taken out-of-service. As the connotation of this term implied that there was no further responsibility for the facility, this term is no longer used. The Utility is still responsible for any utility facility that is deactivated or taken out-of-service unless otherwise agreed to, in writing, by the MDOT SHA and the Utility.
- Please have all Utility Owner Representatives review.

Bill plans to be in person during next month's meeting and discuss further and individually.

NEW BUSINESS

Dmitri Payne, SUE Project Manager for Inframap, introduced himself as the new contract locator contact for DC DOT. As of February 9, 2023, Inframap is responsible for locating streetlights, traffic signals and communication lines.

MISS UTILITY CALL CENTER

➤ Updates Reported by Jennifer Arroyo (Miss Utility)

Jennifer reviewed that changes to the ticketing interface and specifically the Self Select Start Date are forthcoming for Maryland ticketing and so too are changes to the DC ticketing interface. Email blasts will go out with information and timetables in order for ticket processors and excavators to prepare for and expect these upcoming changes.

➤ ITICnxt Virtual Training

- Upcoming trainings: March 3 | April 6 | May 4
- Please visit <http://missutility.tryitic.com/> for multiple ITICnxt resources.
- All 2023 Virtual ITICnxt Training dates and preregistration links are posted at <https://www.missutility.net/calendar-events/>.

➤ Dashboard Reporting: Jennifer Arroyo provided ticket volume data for the month of January 2023.

- Inbound ticket volume: 69,332 a monthly increase of 4.786% compared to 2022
- Outbound volume: 377,426 a year-to-date decrease of 0.679% compared to 2022

➤ Damage Reporting: Susan Sullivan provided YTD data through January 2023 of reported damages in MD/DC.

- 63 utility damages (13 mains and 50 services)
- 33.33% due to no call or valid ticket
- 31.75% due to hitting a marked line
- 25.40% due to incorrect locate marks
- 9.52% due to other root causes

MARYLAND AUTHORITY | Jim Barron, Executive Director | Reported by David Wilkins

- There was no meeting in February. The March meeting has also been cancelled due to a scheduling conflict.
- There are currently twelve (12) NPV's to investigate and review.
- The Authority is hoping to seat new Authority Members at the April 12th meeting and begin Formal Hearings in June 2023.
- The next meeting will be a face-to-face Open Meeting at the Miss Utility Call Center Conference Room. A Closed Executive Session will follow on April 12, 2023.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2023 GCDPTC | Matt Ruddo, Chairman (OCC)

- Conference Dates: October 24-27, 2023
- Conference Venue: Ocean City Fontainebleau Resort
- Save the Date Contest is up and running. Register for updates by emailing 2023gcdptc@gmail.com for your chance to win a two-night package to the 2023 Conference.

MD/DC SUBSCRIBERS COMMITTEE & BOARD OF DIRECTORS | Scott Brown, Chairman

Next meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2023.

DAMAGE PREVENTION AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

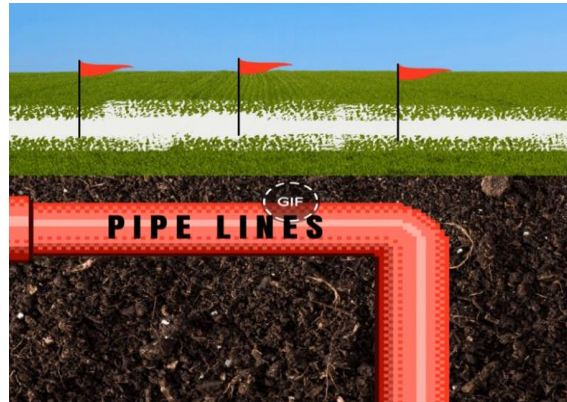
Kevin Woolbright, Chairman | Mark Hamrick Co-Chair

- DPT Upcoming:
 - March 1: MD Society of Surveyors
 - March 2: Gray & Son
 - March 7: Comer Construction
 - March 8: Comer Construction
 - March 17: Virtual Spanish
 - March 24: Green Future in Spanish DPT
- DPT Completed:
 - January 27 – ODPT @ Miss Utility
 - February 1 – ODPT in Charles County
 - February 10 & 24 – P Flanigan
 - February 16 & March 2 – Gray & Son

All 2023 DPT dates and links are now posted at <https://www.missutility.net/calendar-events/> Onsite and Spanish Damage Prevention Training is 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

- Seven wrapped cars currently travel throughout Montgomery, Prince George, Charles and Washington and Frederick Counties and Washington, D.C.
- Quantitative Performance Data for the month of January 2023:
 - Miles traveled by fleet: 11,777 (977 above expectation)
 - Impressions per fleet: 1,719,443 (142,642 above expectation)

➤ MGH Marketing Update

- Trade Shows
 - Next month, Miss Utility will be participating in the:
 - Washington County Home Builders Home Show (March 4-5)
 - Maryland Spring Home & Garden Show (March 4-5 & 10-12)
 - Maryland Asphalt Association & Maryland State Highway Administration Annual Paving Conference (March 8)
- 2023 Scholarship Program | Scott Brown, Chair
 - The 2023 Miss Utility of Maryland/D.C. scholarship is now open!
 - The deadline to apply is Friday, May 26 at 11:59 p.m.
 - The online application can be found at <https://form.jotform.com/MissUtility/Scholarship23>
- 2023 Smart Awards Committee | Kevin Woolbright, Chair | Mark Hamrick, Co-Chair
 - Locator Achievement Awards
 - The 20th annual Locator Achievement Awards nomination window is now closed. In May, winners will be invited to a Bowie Baysox game and banquet to thank them for maintaining faultless safety and damage prevention practices.

- 2023 Dig Smart Awards
 - The 2022-2023 Dig Smart Awards application will launch this summer.

CONSTRUCTION ANGELS | Kevin Woolbright, CA Board Representative for MD/DC

Please consider inviting Kevin to your next networking event as the regional CA Representative. He is eager and passionate about providing brief presentations that give audience members an overview of Construction Angels and the benefits it provides when a construction worker is killed on the jobsite. There is also an option to have a Miss Utility booth set up as well. All free of charge.

Please consider sharing the Construction Angel’s Scholarship link to those who can benefit. The link can be found on both the Miss Utility homepage at <https://www.missutility.net> and on the CA Website at <http://www.constructionangels.us/>. Applicants do not have to have suffered a loss to submit. Regional monies not used by local applicants will be shifted to other areas. Let’s be sure it stays in our local community.

There being no further business brought before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:28 AM.

Upcoming 2023 Hybrid MD/DC Damage Prevention & Safety Meetings

- March 28
- April 25
- May 23

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

ONSITE ATENDANCE:

COMPANY	ATTENDEE NAME & TITLE	TELEPHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS
Anchor Construction	Wen Liang VP	(703) 927-3807	wliang@anchorconst.com
BGE	Ian Jones Supervisor	(410) 470-8217	ian.jones@bge.com
Colonial Pipeline Co.	Scott Moore Right of Way	(443) 821-1797	smoore@colpipe.com
Columbia Gas	Michael Jewell MD AUTHORITY-Subscriber Rep Leader Operations/ Support Specialist	(614) 307-5304	mjewell@nisource.com
Construction Angels	Kevin Woolbright DPC Chairman CA Board Representative for MD/DC	(301) 806-8745	bright.67@verizon.net
CW & Sons Infrastructure, Inc	Jesus Cruz Director of Safety	(301) 213-2153	jcruz@cwsons.com
CW & Sons Infrastructure, Inc	Edwin Flores Safety Coordinator		eflores@cwsons.com

CW & Sons Infrastructure, Inc	Edwin Guerrero Safety Coordinator	(301) 283-8266	eguerrero@cwsons.com
D&D Drilling	Willy Brown Quality Control	(410) 212-2035	Williamdandd93@gmail.com
Ecotech Hydro Excavation	Shelly Masone Business Development Director	443-534-6276	Shelly@goecotech.com
Gaines and Company	Dominic Pope Safety Director	(443) 386-1383	dpope@gainesandco.com
Gray & Son	Lenny Corbin Safety Director	(410) 365-4156	lcorbin@graynson.com
Gray & Son	Shelly Welling Safety Specialist	(410) 771-4311	swelling@graynson.com
Inframap Corp	Dimitri Payne SUE Project Manager	(240) 507-7595	dimitri.payne@inframap.net
NPL	Edie Venit	(571) 220-2261	evenit@gonpl.com
NPL	Regina Lumpkin	(301) 322-3042	rlumpkin@gonpl.com
Old Line Construction	Jacob Peddicord	(410) 286-0647	jpeddicord@oldlineconstructioninc.com
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Susan Sullivan DPC Secretary DP Liaison	(410) 782-2030	ssullivan@missutility.net
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Jennifer Arroyo General Manager	(410) 782- 2101	jennifer@occinc.com
P. FLANAGAN	Shane Boyer Safety Director	(410) 467-5900	sboyer@pflanagan.com
Safe Production Solutions	Dylan Tonkin Safety Consultant	(406) 303-0984	dtonkin@safeproductionsolutions.com
Utiliquest	Erik Phillips Director of Operations	(443) 324-7835	erik.phillips@utiliquest.com
Utiliquest	George Daffan Operations Manager	(301) 399-7975	george.daffan@utiliquest.com
Utiliquest	Justin Lowthert Assistant Manager	(301) 343-8162	justin.lowthert@utiliquest.com
Verizon	Mark Hamrick DPC Vice Chairman Damage Investigator	(410) 610-1371	mark.a.hamrick@verizon.com
Verizon	Jeff Sothoron	(240) 446-3778	jeffrey.p.sothoron@verizon.com
WGL	Ryan Reese Supervisor, DP	(571) 512-0537	RReese@washgas.com

WGL	Greg Mason Senior Specialist, Damage Prevention	(703) 750-5196	Gregory.Mason@washgas.com
WGL	Jack Ellison Sr. Specialist Damage Prevention	(703) 750-5128	jellison@washgas.com
WSSC	David Wilkins BOD, Water/Sewer Rep Customer Advocate	(301) 648-6953	david.wilkins@wsscwater.com