

NC UTILITIES COORDINATION COMMITTEE

Tarboro, NC
November 13, 2008

Call to order

The November meeting of the NC UCC was held at PNG in Tarboro. David Jackson chaired the meeting, and thanked them for allowing us to use their facilities. Twenty five people were in attendance. David thanked Yvonne Ellis for the use of the facilities. Yvonne took a few minutes to talk about the new "Green" building, and how it was designed. Yvonne also thanked Kim Council for setting up the meeting.

Old Business

There was a correction on the September meeting in Wilmington. It was reported the meeting was at PSNC, but was actually at Piedmont Natural Gas.

Treasurers Report

It was reported there was a balance of \$8,565.99, with \$498.00 spent for homeowner's brochures. There are no outstanding bills.

Committee Reports

No open business or reports.

Presentation

Ron Fairbanks gave a presentation for the CGA (Common Ground Alliance, www.commongroundalliance.com). He discussed the Best Practices 5.0 booklet. He also talked about how a "best practice" is decided upon. There are 16 primary representatives on the Best Practices board. Any one member can cast a "no" vote and that will table that practice. The board does not write the best practices. The job of the committee is to gather and approve practices. This can take quite some time for one to be approved. Ron pointed out that George Glenn is the representative for the One Call Centers in the US and Canada.

New Business

We will be mailing a calendar out for the coming year. Also, surveys will be going out to attendees asking for input on how we can better serve the members. And we would like input on the 2010 joint NC/SC UCC meeting. The 2009 NC/SC UCC meeting will be in Litchfield Beach, SC.

Reports

NC DOT

David West spoke for the NC DOT. He stated that encroachments are down 16%-20%. The DOT is reviewing its budget, and is considering ways to assist with revenues. The DOT is considering encroachments to be signed of by an engineer, based on GS 89C in the state legislature. There may be a delay in some of the State's TIP projects. A new administration may also bring changes on board when they take over for 2009.

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NCOCC

Ron Fairbanks reported for the NC OCC. He stated locate requests were down 7.5%, and transmissions were down 13%. The Center continues to push Newton Polygons. This program effectively reduces transmissions and helps prevent damages. Ron pointed out how Colonial Pipeline cut transmissions 52%, with no damages.

Ron emphasized the importance of member utilities keeping their databases current, which will reduce costs and protect member facilities.

The third quarter board of directors meeting was held in Lake Lure in October. There, the board approved the budget. In it, transmission rates went from \$0.65 to \$0.70 for transmissions. Also, the hours of the Call center changed to Monday-Friday 7 AM to 7 PM. The Center is open only for emergency calls in the off hours.

The top five ticket recipients will have an automatic seat on the board. The top five are Time Warner Cable, Piedmont Natural Gas, AT&T, Progress Energy and Duke Power. These are one year seats. The top municipal recipient was the City of Charlotte, which will also have a one year seat. All others are on a three year elected seat.

Another change is the verbiage "locate by" date on the locate request that will go in the location field when a caller requests a locate. This goes in to affect January 9th, 2009.

The NC OCC also had a new switch installed at the Center. This was needed to address phone answering issues.

RAILROADS

No one present

POWER COMPANIES

No reports

GAS COMPANIES

Yvonne Ellis reported that PNG will be holding "first responder" classes in Edgecombe, Nash, Pitt and Bertie Counties November 17th, 2009. Also, PNG is opening another "Green" building in Nashville, Tennessee.

CATV

Bruce Sheldon reported that, following suit with other utilities, residential new build had slowed in the east.

Locating Companies

CLS reported that they now be responsible for locating facilities for Dominion Power.

UCCs

Carteret County UCC had 31 people in attendance at the last meeting. Jake Joplin from Carteret Craven EMC will now chair, with Betty Barnes acting as Secretary.

Craven County UCC's next meeting will be January 29th, 2009.

Davie/Yadkin held an Awareness Cookout in September, followed by a golf outing. Their next meeting will be held the fourth week of January, 2009.

Forsythe/Stokes County UCC held their meeting in September, with a strong turnout. Their damages have been reported down.

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Halifax/Northampton UCC held a contractor breakfast in October, with Jim Lowry as their guest speaker.

Wake County UCC is still holding their meetings at lunch, and has shown a better turnout. They still have a damages subcommittee going out in the field and meeting on site with contractors. NC OCC has been providing biscuits.

Henderson/Polk County UCC contractor breakfast had 91 people turn out, with many coming from Buncombe County. There was good questions and good discussion.

Jones/Onslow UCC had their contractor breakfast with 187 people in attendance.

Wilson/Nash/Edgecombe County UCC is meeting at lunch which should help with participation.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 13th, 2009 at the Greengate Drive location of PNG in Greensboro. Below is a list of hotels in the area right off I-40;

Best Western: 2006 Veasley Street, 336-294-9100

Hampton Inn: 2004 Veasley Street, 336-854-8600

Double Tree: 3030 High Point Road, 336-292-4004

Bruce Sheldon

Secretary, NC Utilities Coordination Committee

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