



North Carolina Utilities Coordinating Committee

&

NCCGARP

North Carolina Common Ground
Alliance Regional Partner

Meeting Minutes

11/8/2011 10:00am

Piedmont Natural Gas Office

1321 S 10th Street Wilmington N, C

Call to Order & Welcome to Guest

Introductions:

Tom West opened the meeting with introductions from around the room, Thanked Piedmont Natural Gas for hosting the meeting welcomed combined meeting of NCUCC & NCCGARP,

Old Business

• Agenda

Cort Bennett made motion to approve agenda Seconded by Doug Morris,

• Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Motion made to approve old minutes by Doc Asbury seconded by Lola Ausby, All Approved

-NCCGARP Minutes—(by Rick)—no discussion, no additions, no changes—passed

New Business

Officers Reports

Tom West (NCUCC)—No new business

Rick Gould (NCCGARP)—discussed Common Ground Alliance, and purpose of Regional Partnerships, Best Practices and Dirt Committee

DIRT—Brad Barringer (NCCGARP)

Best Practices—Alan Gray, Brad B, Louis Panzer—he expanded on purpose of Best Practices and how it works. Tom—discussed how to get a copy of the Best Practices of the Damage Prevention Manual. Rock talked about how often the B.P. is published, how it lives and breathes. Louis discussed making B.P. an easier read, the editing process and changes that will be taking place next year for a release.

Rick talked about the length of the NCCGARP, and the role of the excavators and contractors. Tom seconded that talking about the fact that NCUCC has been missing that, and that both groups want diverse participation

Tom West also announced that lunch will be brought in today because of the length of the meeting—note that Colonial Pipeline provided lunch

Doug Morris (NCUCC)—Discussed the NC/SC Joint Conference will be at the Great Wolf lodge in 2012

Sandra Johnson (NCUCC)—the present bank balance is \$8674.65 with no outstanding invoices

Billy Rice (NCUCC)—Nothing to Report

Mike Bearak (NCCGARP)—Nothing to Report

Marc Worth (NCCGARP)—needs an updated Roster from Mike B. Rick discussed that we get addressed

Allen Gray (NCCGARP)—No Report—hoping to do something in the spring, because there is no money they tag on with groups like NC-811 for events

Brad Barringer (NCCGARP)—explained his role as Regional Partnership Coordinator—he has 5 regional partnerships he coordinates. There was a DIRT call and while there is little to report he did state that if a call was made there as less than 1% chance of damage. The big thing is to make sure there is a call made.

DIRT Report is not what Chpt 9 of B.P. is intended for; there is a huge difference between the two. Brad pointed out that there is a need for information as to almost incidents that come so close to an incident and what lead to this almost incident to help eliminate damage incidents. There were less than 2% of the reports that we close calls, but the group wanted to toss it out because it was so small. Brad feels a need to there is a total difference between a near miss and a something that is almost an incident—it is a definition issue.

Touched on best practices in that it is hard to get things moving because of the diverse backgrounds and positions, he said it takes time but when they do come to a consensus it is a well thought out practice. Brad had inherited the revising of Chapter 9(?)

Brad spoke highly on Fails Management and the quality of data they are analyzing, he noted there was a learning curve, but that was expected and he has been impressed by them. The hope is one day down the road there will be real-time data analysis but that is going to take time.

Definitions has been a big issue and his Chpt 9 review team is hung up waiting on a few definitions where they are defined differently in a number of areas, and it has been decided that until they can get a handle on the definitions it will be hard for the team to work forward. The Board of Directions of the CGA did approve a motion that the B.P. glossary will be the controlling document for definitions to unify the terminology to be used by the committees. Teams will have to use the definition to guide their work.

Allen added that Louis, Tammy Wilfong, and himself are either current or former co-chairs of the Best Practice Committee.

Tom West (NCUCC) talked about if we combine groups that it would be important for each group to keep their separate identities. It is important to understand that both groups bring a wealth of different information to each other.

Louis Panzer (NC811)—Virtual DIRT, NC-811 is a provider of information to National 811, when an incident ticket is called in NC-811 uploads that information as well as processing additional information. There is also a switch that when a company uploads information in DIRT National you can allow NC-811 to look at the information and upload it without seeing the company's name. NC-811 is most concerned with North Carolina so they can pinpoint who, where, why and so forth and to check the box so NC-811 can actually get a map on the number of incidents and such so they can focus on higher risk areas.

There was a request for a definition of "incident" and Brad stated that there is not a definition as well as missing a definition for "event" as well and they have been interchanged so their needs clarification.

NEW BUSINESS:

Handouts—Tom West went over all the handouts as well as articles and additional information. He discussed the links on the agenda

Best Practices—Brad Barringer (NCCGARP) wasn't able to attend the meeting, but Louis and Allen did, so Louis discussed it. It was stated that the Board approved "Near Miss" definition. He also discussed a number of TRs (Transaction Record) that have been gone over. Louis discussed that the Best Practices committee is an open group. Also that a new Best Practice is not generated out of thin air but out of a process to make sure that everything is examined and well evaluated.

Allan Gray (NCCGARP) asked that we send the link for 8.0 out to everyone if they haven't already gotten it.

Louis Panzer (NC811) pointed out that Best Practices are “identified” and not “developed” because with the process that is involved they are identifying actions or behaviors that are already being done and not building or developing a method. Also that the CGA is a cooperation of ALL stakeholders so that everyone’s voice is heard with a Best Practice so that everyone can live with it and conduct business in such a way.

The next Best Practices Meeting will be March 2nd in Las Vegas and the CGA Conference 3rd-5th.

#3 there is an idea/discussion to bring the two groups together to meet down the road. One of the big hurdles in the past has been finances since NCCGARP doesn’t have any. Sandra then discussed where and how the money is going to be spent, but most comes from joint meetings. In the end the money has to stay below \$10,000 to avoid IRS filings. So what comes in has to turn around and go out, but there are no membership fees for either group. NCUCC is supported by the fees to attend the joint conference. The NCUCC is non-profit.

It was decided to hold off on a vote for moving the groups further together on a schedule to see how things continue to play forward.

#4 there is talk that the state is looking at the One-Call law amongst a number of other laws, but it is acknowledged that there needs to be worked and it is possible that it will be part of the short session. Right now there is no piece of legislation.

#6—Tom West (NCUCC) asked if anyone would like to be on one of the UCC committees to talk to him or Sandra Johnson. There are a number of a committees including; advertising, joint conference, golf and other ways. Discussion to work with a variety of other groups (CAGC, NCUCA, and others) to send out an email blast for involvement with the Joint conference, both CAGC and NCUCA are interested in partnering.

#7—Tom West discussed assignments for folks on committees and getting people on the local level involved and active.

#8—Mike Bearak (NCCGARP). Is to get Shaun Johnson’s (Charlotte Motor Speedway) contact information to Tom West for Joint Conference—also send Norman Franklin with the Fire House. They are also looking for speakers.

#9—Elections:

Brad Barringer suggested postponing elections until our next meeting and making sure we get everything cleared up and making sure that we nominate eligible individuals.

The question was then whether we were going to have a separate meeting, doing it in January. Brad suggested a nominating committee and handle it via e-mail or conference call.

Reports:

A-North Carolina DOT

At the end of October they are 65% over what they had received last year regarding encroachment, and NCMC is accounting for about 60% of the increase amount. In the increase it is spread across the board, but not seeing developer driven moves—this excludes NCMC. They are working on an on-line submitted, it is in the test area in Wake with AT&T, last week was the first run and it went okay but this is a learning process—hoping to have this totally online in January 2013. Texas has a program and they are trying to base the NC off of Texas’ as well as some others. Also NCDOT has a new email account-- encr@ncdot.gov this is meant to be a help desk to answer any questions on policies, procedures, and they will get back to you to answer questions and so forth. They are also rolling out a new policy and procedure manual and they have outsourced some of it, and they hope to have it complete in the next 15-16 months—mid-2013. It will be a bit more extensive than they have now. There have also been some reorganizational things as well. There has been further shrinking of government and they are eliminating some upper level positions, it probably won’t directly affect us, but they are trying to streamline the information gathering process as to who we can contact and how.

B-NC/811

YTD tickets—taken in 946,946 or a 0.7% increase and a 2.2% increase in outgoing. They are keeping web entry going up and staying up above 50%...In the last quarter there was a 6.7% increase across the board versus 2010. There is going to be an open house on 12/16 from 10-4 the Call Center will be open just email Louis. New information on the website.

C-State Regulator

There are a couple of large projects to bring gas to a power plant (natural gas). They are looking for a new employee as well. NC Utilities Commission.

D-Electric/Power Companies

Lola reported that they have upgraded a majority of their facilities and now upgrading transformers. The Earthquake from August took two power plants off line, they were shut down automatically, but hopefully both will be back on line soon. There was no significant damage to either plant.

E-Engineering/Design- No Report

F-Equipment/Manufacture- No Report

G-Excavators/Contractors- No Report

Brad Barringer added that the format of this meeting has been really good, and has liked the reporting and is urging everyone to go to more of a combined meeting setting.

H-Insurance-No Report—look up NCUCC on LinkedIn

I-Locator/Locate Companies- No Report

J-Gas Companies/Gas Pipelines

Piedmont announced they have a project in downtown Charlotte and it is a big project and has to be down several months prior to the Democratic National Convention.

K- Oil & Oil Pipelines

There is an article regarding the clean-up from Yellow Stone River clean-up, released over 42,000 barrels of crude oil into the water--\$135 million in clean-up costs.

L-Private Water- No Report

M-Public works-No Report

N-Railroads-No Report

O-Road Builders

Brad Barringer said he is hearing less and less problems from builders and he isn't sure if it is because of better locates, more calls to 811 or just less business. He is seeing fewer incidents in his business than ever before. There is a class-action suit in NC and FLA brought by contractors with damaged facilities that have been over charged and now they are waiting to see how much the utility company will have to pay back because it is understood/agreed upon that there has been overcharges.

P-Telecommunications & Cable TV Companies

Bruce Sheldon reminded everyone about the emergency alert broadcast 11/9/2011 @ 2PM , Former Quest bought out by Century Link working on standards of location , NCMC did receive sizeable grant for the East Coast for Middle, High & Tech Schools, Second grant for Western part of state Hickory to Asheville, possible into Tennessee these are Federal Grants,

**Next NCUCC Meeting; January 10th, 10:00 Am
Piedmont Natural Gas
2611 Greengate Drive Greensboro N, C**

Adjourn

1: 07 PM

