



Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2017

TIME: 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

LOCATIONS:

- NV Energy, 1 Ohm Place, Reno, NV
- NV Energy, 7155 Lindell Road, Las Vegas, NV

MEETING ATTENDEES:

- **North:** Jay Mendiola, NV Energy | Jamie Haas, Paiute Pipeline | Justin McCargar, ELM | Ken Saarem, PUCN | Charles Davis, ELM
- **South:** Bill Riggs, ELM | Cesar Castillo, RP Weddell | Dave Roy, City of Henderson | Dawn Rivard, PUCN | Greg Noel, USIC | Harold Lefler, ELM | Kyle Wright, Haaker Equipment | Mike Marrero, USIC | Rick Torrens, KCI | Robert Ward, NV Energy | Roger Brady, Trench Plate Rental | Phillip Ciotti, Kinder Morgan | Dave Dahl, Kern River | Craig Rogers, PUCN | Dennis Bott, SW Gas | Billy Relph, CenturyLink | Boyd Dufresne, Clark County Water Reclamation District
- **Phone:** Ryan White, USA North | Jimmy Smith, SW Gas | Rudy Ricardo, SW Gas | Julie Hurd, SW Gas

Standing Items:

1. Introductions (Jay Mendiola)

Self-introductions took place.

2. Adoption of the Agenda (Jay Mendiola)

Ken Saarem made a motion to adopt the agenda as is. Justin McCargar seconded it.

3. Financial Status Report – For Information Only (Dawn Rivard)

Dawn provided an update on NRCGA expenditures since the last meeting and current balance.

4. Enforcement Actions (Craig Rogers)

- **Contact Phone Numbers on Dig Tickets:** The PUCN has received complaints about utility contact phone numbers at the bottom of 811 dig tickets not being correct. A PUCN staff member called the numbers to verify them and about half turned out to be incorrect. USA North has dedicated a staff member's time toward verifying contact numbers for all 1500 of its members. Ryan will let Craig know when the verification process is finished. The PUCN will call the numbers again to verify they are correct.
- **PUCN PHMSA Audit:** The result of PHMSA's audit of the PUCN's Pipeline Safety Program was adequate. You can either be adequate or inadequate. However, PHMSA had some concerns that must be addressed before the PUCN's next audit.

1. **NRS 455.107 Exemption from compliance with statutory provisions** – Section 2 of NRS 455.107 allows a person to receive an exemption from having to call in a dig ticket if they get "written consent" from operators involved in the proposed excavation. This provision of NRS needs to be revised in the 2019 legislative session to remove this exemption.

2. **Hand Dig Exemption** – Hand digs are not monitored at this time. NRS needs to be revised in the 2019 legislative session to state all excavations require a dig ticket, even when hand digging.

3. **Positive Response** – At this time, Nevada does not have a mandatory positive response program. It's mandatory in CA as of the state's last legislative session and USA North is in the process of implementing this program. It'll go live on Jan. 1, 2018. USA North will use it in Nevada, but since it's not mandatory, only about 10% of users are expected to use the program. Ryan White will demonstrate how the program works at the NRCGA's Jan. 16, 2018 monthly meeting.

5. CGA Best Practices and CGA Update (Cesar Castillo, Bob Ward)

Registration for the CGA's 2018 annual conference is open. The conference will be held in Phoenix.



New Items:

6. NRCGA Design Ticket Program (Craig Rogers)

There's value in this program, but it's not used. However, there's a need for this type of program because engineers and design firms are calling in dig tickets for design purposes. Craig proposed that the NRCGA establish a Design Ticket Committee and nominated Roger Brady to chair it. Roger accepted. Rick Torrens will be vice-chair of the committee. The committee's goal is to reach out to engineers to let them know about the program.

7. Sponsorship of Southern Nevada Home Builders Association's Fall Golf Tournament (Bob Ward)

Bob Ward made a motion to sponsor a \$600 tee box at this tournament. Dennis Bott seconded the motion. Bob Ward, Roger Brady, Dennis Bott, Cesar Castillo, and Mike Marrero volunteered to represent the NRCGA with a booth at this event.

Committee Reports:

8. Education/Training (Jay Mendiola, Tom Georgi, Cesar Castillo, Dennis Bott)

- Sept. 11 – Jay provided a training for 12 employees from a landscape company.
- Oct 5 – SW Gas's Risk Management Dept. will provide this training for companies that enter gaseous atmosphere. This training is not an NRCGA training.
- 1200 people have received the NRCGA's training to date.

9. Locate Rodeo Committee (Dennis Bott)

The committee met from 9 a.m. – 10 a.m. prior to the NRCGA meeting. The 2018 rodeo will take place in April. There's room on the committee for anyone who wants to be part of it.

10. 811 Safety Day (Mike Marrero)

In August, this committee met to discuss 811 Safety Day. The consensus was that the NRCGA already has events focused on excavators and locators, so 811 Safety Day should focus on the general public. Mike has experience implementing an 811 Safety Day block party in Indiana. One-thousand people attended that block party at a cost of \$18,000. This committee's plan is to implement a block party in Las Vegas on Aug. 11, 2018. The committee's hope is to somehow partner with the Raiders at the site of the new football stadium. NRCGA members voted in favor of moving forward with this plan. This committee will meet again in the beginning of 2018 to begin planning.

11. Excavator Appreciation Events (Jay Mendiola, Bob Ward)

- **Southern Nevada:**
 - The event will be held on Nov. 9 at the Henderson Convention Center.
 - Phillip Ciotti from Kinder Morgan will provide a presentation on encroachments.
 - Craig Rogers is spearheading the effort to select the Silver Shovel Award Winner.
 - Dennis Bott will ask USA North for ticket statistics from May 2016 to May 2017 to compare the number of tickets requested and damage statistics for excavators in the area.
 - Dawn is looking for swag ideas to gift excavators who attend the dinner.
 - Tyler Byrd, last year's silver shovel winner, will provide a presentation on his experience as excavator of the year.
 - USA North may give a presentation on the positive response program.
- **Northern Nevada** – the event will be held on either Nov. 1 or 8 at the Nugget.

12. USA North 811 (USAN) – NV Committee Update (Boyd Duchene, Bob Ward, Tom Georgi, Donnie Foster)

This committee has not met since the NRCGA's Aug. 15 meeting.



Non-Agendized Items:

13. Emergency Cards (Dave Dahl)

Dawn will send out a reminder to NRCGA members to ask for confirmation that the numbers on the NRCGA's emergency cards are still accurate. Dave Dahl is retiring on Oct. 6. Cory Stacy will be the NRCGA's new contact at Kern River.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, Oct. 17, 2017