



Meeting Minutes

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, June 20, 2017

TIME: 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

LOCATIONS:

- NV Energy, 1 Ohm Place, Reno, NV
- SW Gas, 1060 Alper Center Dr., Henderson, NV

MEETING ATTENDEES:

- **North:** Jay Mendiola, NV Energy | Jamie Haas, Paiute Pipeline | Jack Byrom, TMWA | Mike Fitzgibbons, Comstock Insp. | Justin McCargar, ELM | Geoff Daorno, TMWA | Ken Saarem, PUCN
- **South:** Billy Relph, CenturyLink | Boyd Duchene, CCWRD | Cesar Castillo, RP Weddell | Craig Rogers, PUCN | Dave Roy, City of Henderson | Dawn Rivard, PUCN | Dennis Bott, SW Gas | Dick Schneider, Trench Shoring Company | Greg Noel, USIC | Harold Lefler, ELM | Kyle Wright, Haaker Equipment | Mike Marrero, USIC | Rick Torrens, KCI | Roger Brady, Trench Plate Rental | Steve Priscu, City of Boulder City | Tom Georgi, LVVWD | Bill Riggs, ELM | Erika Hernandez, PUCN | Eric Flores, ELM | James Wingate, USA North 811
- **Phone:** Courey Stacey, Kern River | Wayne Scott, ATT

Standing Items:

1. Introductions (Jay Mendiola)

Self-introductions took place.

2. Adoption of the Agenda (Jay Mendiola)

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

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

Since our last meeting, the NRCGA has spent \$22,029 on 811 outreach activities. \$10,000 was spent on a Reno Aces sponsorship. The rest was spent on the NRCGA Utility Locate Rodeo.

4. Enforcement Actions (Craig Rogers)

In the south, since our last meeting, the PUCN has issued multiple verbal warnings, a couple warning letters, and one citation. And in the north, the PUCN has issued a couple verbals.

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

Tabled.

Committee Reports:

6. Education/Training (Jay Mendiola, Cesar Castillo, Dennis Bott)

- Companies that have sent employees to the NRCGA training are still causing problems in the field. Sometimes it's due to the fact the company sends Spanish-speaking employees to an English class. Other times it's because a supervisor or other management staff member attends the training, but apparently these staff do not pass the training information down to field workers. Dennis and Cesar intentionally schedule an English and Spanish classes back-to-back (English class one day, Spanish the next) so that the availability of Spanish classes will not tempt companies to send Spanish speakers to an English class.
- Companies like Las Vegas Paving send all employees to the NRCGA training. We're making good partnerships.
- Northern Nevada: No trainings since last month.



- Southern Nevada:
 - SW Gas' Risk Division is preparing a June 27 training, from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m., for 5 companies that have been repeat crimping offenders. These 5 companies have already been through the NRCGA's excavator training and risk OSHA fines of \$160,000 for their continued crimping. If the companies are caught crimping after the June 27 training, OSHA will fine them. Dennis will take to SW Gas' Risk Division to see if the Division will provide this training to NRCGA members.
 - Dennis has an English class scheduled for June 28 and Cesar has a Spanish class scheduled on June 29.
 - 700+ people have been trained so far in the south.
- The NRCGA's swag bag contains safety info on what to do if an excavator hits a utility line while digging. If your company has safety info you'd like to include in the bag, let Dennis know. Also, if you have bags to donate, let Dennis know.

7. **811 Safety Day (Cesar Castillo)**

The first safety day will be held in 2018. If you're interested in being in this committee, please email Dawn Rivard at drivard@puc.nv.gov. The committee will begin meeting soon.

8. **Locate Rodeo Committee (Dennis Bott)**

- Eric Flores, winner of the NRCGA's Utility locate Rodeo was in attendance. He said the rodeo was "fun," but would have liked to have seen more competitors involved. After talking with locators who did not participate in the rodeo, he said those locators wished they had competed. He hopes he's ready to compete in the international rodeo on June 24.
- Thirteen locators competed. We did not have a water division. No locators signed up to compete in that division. We're hoping to have water in the 2018 rodeo.
- The rodeo committee would like to see more competitors from northern Nevada and government/non-profit locators. Dave Roy, from the city of Henderson, said the cash prizes and paid-time-off required to compete in the international rodeo kept locators from his jurisdiction from competing. He will try to get his jurisdiction's locators involved next year. Craig will talk to North Las Vegas and Las Vegas to see if they will compete in 2018. If we get one jurisdiction to figure out a way to compete, it will set the groundwork for the other jurisdictions to follow.
- The 2018 rodeo will be earlier in the year – April, May or March.

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

- USA North's new general manager, James Wingate, attended this meeting. James comes from Blue Stake in Utah, which doesn't have a regional CGA. He would be happy to talk to anyone in Nevada about concerns with USA North. James promised that good things will be happening in the near future. Clark County is second only to Santa Rosa in the number of calls to USA North and should be made to feel important. James said, "We'll take care of Nevada just like we take care of California."
- NRCGA members have observed excavators in the field utilizing USA North's printed excavation manual. Members asked that USA North continue to print the Nevada Excavation Manual because converting the manual to a smart-phone-only application will not help field guys who can't rely on or don't have a smart phone.
- Nevada excavators say they want the call center available 24 hours. Although online tickets are available 24/7, excavators want to be able to call in a ticket 24/7. James said if it makes fiscal sense, he's willing to do it.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 18, 2017