
Minutes

MEETING DATE: March 20, 2018

TIME: 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

LOCATIONS:

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

ATTENDANCE:

- **North:** Jack Byrom, TMWA | Mike Fitzgibbons, Comstock Insp. | Jamie Haas, Paiute Pipeline | Jay Mendiola, NV Energy | Justin McCargar, ELM
- **South:** Boyd Duchene, CCWRD | Bill Riggs, ELM | Cesar Castillo, R.P. Weddell | Craig Rogers, PUCN | Dave Roy, City of Henderson | Dawn Rivard, PUCN | Dennis Bott, SW Gas | Mike Marrero, USIC | Nick Nishihama, City of Las Vegas | Rick Torrens, KCI | Robert Ward, NV Energy | Steve Priscu, City of Boulder City | Tom Georgi, LVVWD | Bill Wellman, Las Vegas Paving | Alex Murray, Southwest Gas | Kevin Geary, Badger Daylighting | Brett Willis, Silver Lake Construction | Mike Sturgill, ELM
- **Phone:** Dwayne Wilson, Wells Cargo | Ryan White, USA North | Brad Paulson, Kern River

STANDING ITEMS:

1. Introductions (Bob Ward)

Self-introductions took place.

2. Adoption of the Agenda (Jay Mendiola)

Dennis Bott made a motion to adopt the agenda. Cesar Castillo seconded the motion.

3. Financial Status Report (Dawn Rivard)

The state of Nevada will not allow the NRCGA to use grant money for food or travel, or allow the NRCGA to enter into contracts. For example, working with the Las Vegas 51s for 811 Day would require a contract, which the state will not allow. Following the state's restrictions, the NRCGA will only be able to spend about half of the \$85,000 grant funds awarded by PHMSA. Due to these restrictions, Dawn will set meeting with committee chairs to talk about how to budget for NRCGA's remaining 2018 activities.

4. Enforcement Actions (Craig Rogers)

The PUCN issued two civil penalties – one in the north and one in the south. No warning letters issued. One of the penalties was issued to a utility and one to an excavator.

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

The CGA's newest best practice book (15.0) is out. Cesar will review it to see what's new in this edition from the 14.0 version.

6. Positive Response Program (James Wingate for Ryan White)

There are 35 members in Nevada using the system, such as SW Gas. Kern River has training scheduled in April for employees. Kern River will start using this program after the training. Boyd Duchene said Clark County is looking into using this program. Craig Rogers said positive response is the way of the future and NRS will probably require using it at some point.

7. Damage/Exposed Ticket (Ryan White)

At the CGA conference, Arizona 811 talked about their process in a session. Arizona law outlines the process. A utility has a 2-hour window to show up and identify/claim a line. If it's unclaimed, the utility that most qualifies to determine if the unknown line is live or not will make that call. It's a coordinated effort between state law and follow up procedure with call center. In Nevada, there's no response window. There's nothing in place to state what happens when utilities don't respond. Nevada is going to need legislation to outline procedure. The first step for NV is to get a positive response in place. The second step is to get a law in place. A word-around to getting a law passed would be to work with contractors and utilities to get a procedure in place. PHMSA recently audited the state of NV and found NV to be "adequate." However, PHMSA told the state to make it mandatory for anyone who hits a gas line to call 811. This is an NAC change, not NRS. An NAC change does not require a bill draft request and legislation. Craig Rogers will form a committee to discuss a regional best practice. This will be a permanent sub-committee. Craig will chair it. Cesar Castillo, Mike Marrero and Bob Ward volunteered to be on the committee. We'll send out an email to all stakeholders to get more involved.

NEW ITEMS:

8. Removing/Moving Dirt – NRS 455 Definition of Excavation (Dennis Bott)

NAC should define what is an excavation. PUCN inspectors would not stop to see if someone had a dig ticket if they were simply moving sand from one location to another. Inspectors would be concerned once the moving of sand reaches into the Earth. Craig Roger's new best practices sub-committee will look into developing an excavation definition.

9. Reno Aces Promotion (Jay Mendiola)

Just like last year, the Aces would charge the NRCGA \$10,000 for a full summer promotion. NV Energy, Southwest Gas and USA North each contributed \$1500 toward the promotion in 2017. NV Energy North would contribute \$1500 again this year. The baseball season starts on April 15. The NRCGA needs to decide soon if we're going to do this promotion again in 2018.

10. CGA Conference Update (All Applicable NRCGA Members)

- **Mike Marrero** attended the CGA's Best Practices Meeting. Almost 60% of utilities in the US are privately owned, such as street lights, or gas lines to pools on residential property. Attendees at this meeting talked about what to do to protect these 60% of facilities. Mike recommends attending the CGA's Best Practice meeting. They have three throughout the year, including at the annual conference. Non-committee members can attend.
- **Brett Willis** from Silver Lake Construction, the NRCGA's Silver Shovel winner, said the conference was interesting, but as an excavator, not much was relevant to him. He liked the expo.
- **Bob Ward** and **Craig Rogers** said there was much more downtime this year than last. Both liked the expo.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

- **North (Jay Mendiola)** – No trainings in the north.
- **South (Dennis Bott, Cesar Castillo)** –
 - i. Dennis and Cesar are working on a specialized training regarding excavator attempts to make repairs in the field to facilities the excavator damaged. Cesar started going to Lowe's, Home Depot and Ace



Hardware to drop off training fliers. He hopes to have fliers in all these stores by the end of March. He will track how many requests for trainings he gets as a result of the fliers at these stores.

- ii. The NRCGA just received a new order of training business cards. These are handed out to people in the field. They tell people to go to the NRCGA website to register for training. Bob Ward will send some cards to Jay Mendiola for distribution in the north.

12. Locate Rodeo Committee (Dennis Bott, Mike Marrero)

There are 36 competitors. 26 in gas. Volunteers are needed to work the day of the event.

13. 811 Safety Day (Mike Marrero)

This will now be known as 811 Day Block Party. The committee will hold an April 4 planning teleconference. Let Mike know if you want to be part of this committee.

14. USA North 811 NV Committee Update (Boyd Duchene, Bob Ward, Tom Georgi)

This

Non-Agenda Items

15. National Safe Digging Month (Bob Ward)

The following decisions were made to fill open board seats.

- Boyd proposed that he, Jack Byrom, Dennis Bott and Bob Ward be voted in by the NRCGA as voting members of this board. Boyd made a motion; Cesar Castillo seconded it. All said aye. No opposed.
- Boyd made a motion to approve Craig Rogers as a regulatory, non-voting board member. He may attend meetings, but he cannot vote. All said aye.
- Boyd proposed that Cesar Castillo be voted into a non-voting board position representing excavators. All said aye.
- Boyd proposed that Rick Torrens be voted into the board as an engineer, non-voting member. All said aye.
- Mike Sturgill, ELM, and Mike Marrero, USIC, both would like to represent locating on the USA North board. This locator position is also non-voting. Dawn will send out an email for to all directors, primary and alternate to vote for Mike or Mike to fill the open position.
- Board members cannot miss 3 meetings and can attend by teleconference, but must attend at least one meeting in person.

Next Meeting: April 17, 2018