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## Membership Meeting Minutes

**MEETING DATE:** July 20, 2021

**TIME:** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**LOCATIONS:**

- **MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING**

**ATTENDEES:**

1. Dennis Bott, NRCGA Chair, SW Gas
2. Cesar Castillo, RP Weddell, NRCGA Vice Chair
3. Dawn Rivard, NRCGA Secretary/Treasurer, PUCN
4. Larry Bialek, Cox Communications
5. Boyd Duchene, CCWRD, NRCGA Board
6. Matt Brecke, NV Energy
7. Charles Folashade, FMG LTD
8. Tom Clifton, TMWA
9. Craig Rogers, PUCN, NRCGA Board
10. Jeremy Crawford, Kern River
11. Anthony Ebersole, Cox Communications
12. Elizabeth Duenez, Sunstate Companies
13. Harold Lefler, Western States
14. Jamie Haas, Paiute Pipeline, NRCGA Board
15. Kyle Wright, Haaker Equipment
16. Mario Fernandez, LVVWD, NRCGA Board
17. Nancy Lopez, SW Gas
18. Brad Poulson, Kern River
19. Richard Torrens, KCI Engineering, NRCGA Board
20. Robbie Reed, City of Henderson
21. Ryan White, USA North, NRCGA Board
22. Salvatore Caponigro, Stake Center Locating
23. Scott Allen, Las Vegas Paving
24. Shane Ayers, Stake Center Locating
25. Robert Ward, NV Energy
26. Charles Atkinson, TMWA
27. Michael Ochs, Q&D Construction
28. Jeff Kennedy, Cox Communications
29. Gregory Noel, USIC Locating, NRCGA Board

**STANDING ITEMS:**

1. **Introductions (Dennis Bott)**
2. **Adoption of the Agenda (Dennis Bott)**  
Cesar made motion; Boyd seconded it.
3. **Financial Status Report (Dawn Rivard)**  
Dawn provided an update on the NRCGA's finances.
4. **Enforcement Actions (Craig Rogers)**  
7 civil penalties since our last meeting. 4 in north, 4 in south. All but 1 were contractors.
5. **CGA Best Practices and CGA Update (Cesar Castillo, Bob Ward)**  
Annual conference held in Orlando this year in October in Orlando. April CGA annual conference will be in Tampa.
6. **USA North 811 Positive Response Program (Ryan White)**  
Starting Sept. 1, some codes will be deleted from the system. Make sure the new codes and old ones have been updated in your company's ticket management system. Usage is moving forward. Craig is helping to track down people not using the system and encouraging them to use PR. Official law update is coming in the near future. A NUCA representative present at the meeting and will let NUCA members know about PR. Dawn will send out PR codes.



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**NEW ITEMS:**

**7. NRCGA Tailgate Teammate Sponsorship – CGA Conference (Ryan White, Dennis Bott)**

CGA is doing a social event, focused on sports, at the annual conference in October. Joe Thiesman will be the speaker at the tailgate event. They're selling booth sponsorships for the events to allow participants to fly their team's flag at the event. This is a networking event. Cost is \$2500. Will do a Board email vote to pay or nay the sponsorship.

**8. Locator Training (Michael Ochs)**

Q&D Construction is in the planning process of utilizing a parcel of land they own outside of Sparks for training. Q&D wants to place utilities underground and use it to train our employees on means and methods of safely digging around utilities. This as a possible opportunity to involve the locate community. Q&D would do a mock locate on the utilities so the excavators can see the marks and work around them to find the utility in a safe manner. Q&D would like to tap the locate community knowledge for lessons learned as well as the errors they have seen in the field to recreate these situations so that Q&D's employees can learn to recognize these traps, as well as include the locators to let them work on improving their skills in a real world setting. If anyone is interested in partnering, contact Michael. This probably won't happen until 2022.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**9. Design Ticket Exploratory Committee (Rick Torrens)**

Committee members. They went over what the NRCGA did in the past with design tickets and brainstormed some questions. 1) which orgs currently do design tickets? Of all 50 states, there are 26 that have some sort of design ticket process. 2) what kind of volume are we looking at? The state of VA, over a 3 year period, had 600+ design tickets per month. Hurdles – 1) making the request and getting the info from the utility operators & 2) the actual field locate. At the moment, design companies call in a dig ticket because we don't have the option of a design ticket. If you have ideas or are in favor of design ticket program, join this committee – email Rick.

**10. NRCGA Board of Directors Nominating Committee (Robbie Reed)**

Tabled until Sept.

**11. Education/Training (Cesar Castillo, Dennis Bott, Steve Wibalda, Nancy Lopez)**

Training committee meeting soon to revamp some of the training material. We want to enhance our Spanish training. We're doing in-person training in the north and south.

**12. 811 Day (Ryan White)**

- South Event: Ryan talked with people from the Knights training facility. We can rent out both training rinks for 3 hours at a time or chunks of 3 hours. We'll basically have 2 events. Volunteers are needed. Bob Ward is going to bring in some radio people and Fox 5 news.
- ✓ Morning: We're going to do a morning drive-thru coffee/handouts for contractors. Public Works coffee is going to provide the coffee. We'll promote the event to contractors. Works out to \$1.60/cup of coffee for a bulk order. 6 a.m. – 8 a.m.
- ✓ Handouts: 811 bags and put together a pack of stuff in the bag. NRCGA advertisement for training. Dennis/SWG will donate items.



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- ✓ Afternoon: This one will be open skate for families. T-shirt handout – cannot use the Knights logo. Ryan’s looking into how much it would cost to have the mascot onsite during the event. Volunteers needed. 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. This is a free event, including the skates. Handouts: Backpacks with back-to-school theme. Dennis/SWG will donate 811 backpacks. Ryan will ask members in the general membership meeting at 10 to donate.
  - North Event: Matt Brecke is in charge of this event up north. He’s doing a similar drive-by coffee event in the morning. He’s partnered with a Reno coffee company. Doing it at home improvement store. Coffee trailer will be on site. In the afternoon, they will do a water park in Sparks similar to what we did at Cowabunga Bay in 2019. He’s trying to get \$8.11 entrance fee. If any members in the north want to participate and have a booth, contact Matt. Nancy Lopez has radio and TV contacts and will reach out to try and get media coverage.

**13. Excavator Appreciation Events (Cesar Castillo, Dawn Rivard)**

Look back period is Aug 2021 - Aug 2021. Will get a list from USAN and utility members will scrub the list and remove all excavators who’ve had a mechanical damage. Will pick 4 companies and conduct interviews with representatives from all our stakeholder groups participate in the interviews.

**14. USA North 811 NV Committee Update (Boyd Duchene, Bob Ward, Dennis Bott)**

USA North Looking for a new vendor for the one-call system. USAN has had issues with their current software provider for a while. Example – waiting 2 years for Spanish translation of 811 Express program. Ryan will be able to update us more at our Sept. meeting.

**Next Meeting: Sept. 21, 2021**