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## Membership Meeting Minutes

**MEETING DATE:** May 17, 2022

**TIME:** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**LOCATIONS:**

- **MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING**
- **SOUTHWEST GAS, 1060 ALPER CENTER DRIVE, HENDERSON**

(14 in-person, 30 Teams)

Dennis Bott, Chair, Southwest Gas  
Cesar Castillo, Vice-Chair, RP Weddell  
Sal Caponigro, Board Member, Stake Center  
Rick Torrens, Board Member, KCI  
Boyd Duchene, Board Member, CCWRD  
Craig Rogers, Board Member, PUCN  
Wayne Scott, Board Member, AT&T  
Ryan White, Board Member, USA North 811  
Bob Ward, Board Member, NV Energy  
Nick Nishihama, City of Las Vegas  
Steve Wibalda, G2  
Andrew, City of Las Vegas Intern  
Jethro, Dig Contrax  
Cathy Williams, Badger Daylighting  
Scott Allen, LV Paving  
Nathan Rasnick, GPR Data  
Representative, CCPW  
Representative, Zayo  
Carlos Moreno, CenturyLink  
Thomas Fava Jr., Stake Center  
Agustin Favela, Landcare  
Joseph D'Ambrosio, NV Energy  
Bridget Alati, CCI-Southwest

Jeremy Crawford, Kern River  
Tom Clifton, TMWA  
Kevin Cosgrove, Silver Lake Construction  
David L. Estes, CenturyLink  
Elizabeth Amaya, NV Energy  
Charles Atkinson, TMWA  
Jaime Navarrete, Unknown  
Beryl Cox, Cox  
Larry Bialek, Cox  
Frank Walton Jr., Mcon Inc.  
Matt Brecke, NV Energy  
Anthony Ebersole, Cox  
Brian Gordon, DigContrax  
Greg Noel, USIC  
Tyler Byrd, Byrd Underground  
Marc Krichman, 811 Spotter  
Alex McManus, Unknown  
+1 702-601-4344, Unknown  
Jamie Haas, Great Basin Pipeline  
Nancy Lopez, Southwest Gas  
+1 702-815-9890, Unknown  
Felicia Tarin, Hole Hogz

**STANDING ITEMS:**

1. **Introductions (Dennis Bott)**

2. **Adoption of the Agenda (Dennis Bott)**

Sal Caponigro made a motion to adopt the agenda. Rick Torrens seconded the motion.



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3. **Financial Status Report (Dawn Rivard)**

Dawn gave an update. Dennis told members to reach out to me if they want to be on the budget committee. We need to figure out how to bring in money to keep our outreach at the current level.

4. **Enforcement Actions (Craig Rogers)**

The PUCN has issued three enforcement letters and three civil penalties since our March meeting. Failure to pothole is our biggest problem. Contractors are calling in tickets but digging right through the marks. Craig went to three damages yesterday – 1 didn't have a ticket, 2 potholed.

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

Next year the CGA conference will be in Orlando from April 17-21, and in 2024 it will be in Denver.

**NEW ITEMS:**

6. **Committee Information on [www.NRCGA.org](http://www.NRCGA.org) (Dawn Rivard)**

Dawn created web pages for each of the NRCGA's committees. These pages will serve as a repository for each committee's info, including committee chair and contact info, minutes from meetings, and scheduled meetings.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

7. **Best Practices (Craig Rogers)**

Two things going on.

- **Hand Dig Legislation.** The PUCN is sponsoring a bill draft request to specify what hand digging constitutes. We're trying to target licensed contractors, not grandma's planting flowers in the backyard or boy scouts pounding stakes for a tent. It'll force licensed contractors to call in tickets even when using hand tools. About 30% of damages are from hand tools. A lot of scary damages are stakes going into an electric or gas line.
- **Mandatory Positive Response.** The PUCN just completed a small business impact statement. It should be settled by the end of the year.

8. **Golf Tournament (Bob Ward)**

We need to get info together before Bob meets with National Golf Course, specifically group size and the date of the tournament. NUCA just has their annual tournament in April. We don't want to compete with them. Therefore, we'll have ours in October. Scott Allen said NUCA has 36 foursomes. Sal Caponigro, Craig Rogers, Dawn Rivard, Dennis Bott, Cesar Castillo, Elizabeth Duenez, and Elizabeth Amaya volunteered to be on the committee.

9. **Education/Training (Steve Wibalda)**

500 people have been trained so far this year. The committee has been hosting four classes per month at SW Gas – 2 English, 2 Spanish. Starting in June, class size will be 100 again. If you want to do Saturday classes, contact Steve. As long as you have 40 people, they can do the training. 811 Pro is an option for people who can only take the training at night or aren't near Vegas or Reno. If your company needs training outside of the 4-monthly scheduled by the NRCGA, contact the committee for accommodations. We'll do our best to make it happen. We have several trainings available to work with your schedule. Even though this training is free, please let the trainer know if people you said were going to attend can't make it so the trainer doesn't wait for the students.



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Steve will set up a committee meeting to review the material being trained. It would be beneficial to have contractors be part of the review effort because right now most of the info is from the utility side. If you're an excavator/contractor, let Steve know if you want to be part of this committee.

**10. Excavator Event (Sal Caponigro)**

The event was held April 21 at Stoney's. It was a nice venue, centrally located with room to grow the event. We came in under budget. We didn't use the mechanical bull this time but will next time. It wasn't as well attended as we hoped. We hope to change that next year. We just flipped the event from November to April – may have caused less participation because we just had the last one in Nov. 2021 prior to this event in April 2022. Next time we want to have people pledge money to sponsor someone ride the bull.

**11. Locate Rodeo (Dennis Bott)**

UTTO owns the National Locate Rodeo. They changed the traditional rodeo format that includes a "wheel" to a virtual rodeo. Dennis reached out to UTTO to see if we could bring the new format to our rodeo. It was expensive - \$8000. They would like the NRCGA to buy their equipment and have a virtual rodeo. The cost to buy the equipment is \$24,000. We decided to keep the traditional format with the wheels. The rodeo is open to all locators who haven't had any damages in the previous year. We've always had issues with cities, counties, etc., not participating. If you're one of these locators, start working now to find a way to participate. It'll probably be in early November.

**12. NUCA Damage Prevention Committee (Dennis Bott for Harold Lefler)**

This is a liaison committee between NUCA and NRCGA. We can work together on issues and talk about real issues on what's happening right now. The NV Contractors Assoc wants to join this committee as well. Join this committee and bring your voice/problems/solutions!

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

Without the support and participation of utility operators, design tickets won't happen. Operators don't have budgets or interest in it. Until they do, it's going to be a tough road.

**14. 811 Day (Dawn Rivard)**

The southern committee is planning to host an event at Cowabunga Bay and is working with Bliss Entertainment to plan. The north may have an 811 Day event at Wild Island.

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

At the last NUCA/NRCGA damage prevention meeting, James Wingate, USA North's executive director, made a presentation on the new dig ticket format. That meeting generated a lot of discussion and led to USAN meeting with stakeholders. One new item that caused friction with excavators was including dig depth in the ticket request, as well as work duration. Stakeholders don't see value in the new items, including depth, added to the tickets. USAN sees value in terms of data that could be collected, but decided to remove those new items on the NV ticket.

**Next Meeting: July 19, 2022**