



Agenda

MEETING DATE: March 19, 2024

TIME: 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

LOCATIONS:

- **MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING**
- **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA**
9075 W. DIABLO DRIVE, #250, LAS VEGAS NV 89148

ATTENDANCE:

In Person Attendance – 22 Total

Cesar Castillo, Chair, RP Weddell
Dawn Rivard, Secretary/Treasurer, PUCN
Steven Priscu, Director, City of Boulder City
Sal Caponigro, Director, Stake Center
Dennis Bott, Director, PUCN
Beryl Cox, Cox Communications
Betty Chang, Google Fiber
Kristen Garcia, Vice-Chair, NV Energy
Greg Noel, USIC
Mike Marrero, USIC
Randy Charland, Utiliquist
Dwayne Wilson, Wells Cargo
Harold Lefler, Western States
Mike Austin, Director, LVVWD
Charles Folashade, FMG/Coneson
Brendan Vargas, Tilson
Felicia Tarin, Hole Hogz
LaWayne Scott, Director, AT&T
Robert McKechnie, Hole Hogz
Eric Grayson, NPL Construction
Kondala Rao Mantri, City of Las Vegas
Brian Gordon, Dig Contrax

Teams Attendance – 29 Total

Boyd Duchene, Director, CCWRD
Bobby Theis, City of Las Vegas
Brad Poulson, Kern River
Ryan White, Director, Underground Service Alert
Jeremy Crawford, Kern River

STANDING ITEMS:

1. **Introductions (Cesar Castillo)**
Cesar made introductions and brought the meeting to order.

Terry Harpt, Southwest Gas
Paul Gibson, Terra Contracting
Christopher McNamara, Las Vegas Paving
Chance Walker, Southwest Gas
Dave Mauerman, Pelican Corp
Joseph D'Ambrosio, NV Energy
Kaitlyn M Cabrera, ELM Utility
Michael Ochs, Director, Q&D Construction
Robert Baca, SW Gas
Ronald Lovely, LVVWD
Kevin Cosgrove, Silverlake Construction
Andre Arandia, Ervin Cable Construction
Jeremiah Merritt, Sierra Nevada Construction
Charles Atkinson, TMWA
Richard Torrens, Director, KCI
Scott Allen, Las Vegas Paving
Elizabeth Amaya, NV Energy
Lynsay Demko-Edwards, Director, Southwest Gas
Rustin McLaughlin, Director, Great Basin Pipeline
David Estes, CenturyLink
Tyler Byrd, Byrd Underground
Kathy Bergman, Mammoth Underground
Lacey Theobald, Tilson
Alma Arreola, Unknown



2. **Adoption of the Agenda (Cesar Castillo)**

Sal Caponigro made a motion to adopt the agenda. Brendan Vargas seconded the motion.

3. **Underground Service Alert (USA North 811) Update (Ryan White)**

4 different technologies within the USAN online ticketing system will be released over the coming weeks, with more than 20 items updated. All users will be emailed about the changes. Some of the bigger things:

- I. **Ticket Expiration Reminders.** 5 days before a ticket's expiration date, an automatic expiration reminder will be sent. Emergency tickets won't have reminders built in.
- II. **One Call Access for Locations Where You Use GPS to Search for Location.** Will be easier to enter x and y coordinates.
- III. **One Call Access and Positive Response Combining:** Positive response will be available in the app.
- IV. **Planning and Design:** Allows engineers, designers and people in the planning stages to draw polygon where proposed work will be and a list of contacts from utilities will show up. Goal is to cut down on unnecessary 811 tickets. USAN member services have been contacting utilities to get contact info.
- V. **Wording Changes to Secondary Notices.**

Suggestion from Tyler Byrd: Create a committee about 2-way positive response communication.

Dennis Bott: Mandatory PR is coming – will be an NAC change. It's waiting for a PUCN lawyer to get to it.

Most utilities are already positive responding back to the call center already – soon they will all have to do it.

April 6 – USAN's first ever sporting clays tournament will take place. USAN appreciates all the help and support from all sponsors and players.

NEW BUSINESS:

4. **Short Notice Dig Tickets (Dennis Bott)**

Board felt like it's necessary to create a subcommittee to explore where short notice tickets are used and why. Short notice tickets aren't covered in the law, but it's a policy of USAN to allow short notice tickets. Is there a need for them? Do we need to get rid of them? From discussion already, there is a need. We're inviting everyone to be on this committee. If you're interested, reach out to Dawn. We haven't assigned a committee chair or co-chair yet. I'll send out an email invitation for people to join the committee. Committee needs to explore CGA best practices, what the rest of the country is doing, data from NV tickets. How can we change this without changing the law? It's a policy of USAN. They're listed as the one-call center in NRS 455 and can make policy. A legislative session is coming up next year. If we need to get a law changed, now is the time to see if we need to get something changed in the law.

Committee volunteers from the meeting: Brendan Vargas, Felicia Tarin, Robert McKechnie, Harold Lefler, Jeremy Crawford, Greg Noel, Mike Austin, Beryl Cox, and Sal Caponigro. Dawn will schedule a meeting date and send out an invitation.

5. **Keeping Utility Contact Info on 811 Tickets Current (Dennis Bott)**

Really important for utility operators to keep their contact info updated at USAN, otherwise excavators and Dennis can't get ahold of the right people directly. Members are the ones who get to choose how their company's names are displayed on the ticket. Contact USAN to keep info current – DPP damage prevention portal – use this to keep contact info current. If the utility designates their locate company as their contact,



that's who you'll get as the point-of contact for the utility. If you're running into obstacles contacting locators, let Dennis know.

Also need a call-if-damage list. This is part of the 50 in 5 initiative and we'll work on it, but it's separate from keeping utility contact info up-to-date.

Another topic for 50-in-5 – DBAs – if a utility uses a DBA, need to know how to contact the utility.

6. **Implementation of Safety & Technology Day (Cesar Castillo)**

NUCA and NRCGA are talking about partnering to educate the community. Thinking about our members, some of their companies bring products that could help promote damage prevention. It would be a good idea to have a day when these companies could bring all their products and technology and put it on display. Partner with NUCA and NCA, etc. Could make this an 811 day event rather than creating a new event.

7. **Caterpillar Damage Prevention Technology on Heavy Equipment (Cesar Castillo for Brian Girouard)**

They'll be at the excavator event and you can talk to them about their new technology.

8. **Backhoe Rodeo (Tyler Byrd)** (Item added during the meeting)

Scheduled for Oct. 26 – hope to have a bigger event. Going to be at Dig This, bigger and better.

9. **Government Affairs Committee (Mike Marrero)** (Item added during the meeting)

Mike suggested adding this committee to the NRCGA's list of committees. There are a lot of great things happening across the country and this committee could look into them. Mike volunteered to be the committee chair. Brendan Vargas volunteered to be on the committee. NUCA already has this committee, they're reaching out to political candidates and have a candidate coming to their Hard Hat Happy hour next week to speak to members.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

10. **Excavator Appreciation Event/Silver Shovel Award (Cesar Castillo)**

Will take place April 4 at the Willows Golf. 3 candidates will be interviewed today and tomorrow. The winner will be announced at the event. Space for 150 at the event.

NEW MEMBER(S):

11. **Pelican Corp (Dave Mauerman)**

Pelican is excited to be part of NRCGA and will attend our April 4 event and USAN safe digging show down. This is the company that provides the Pelican software for USAN.

12. **Ervin Cable Construction (Andre Arandia)**

Coming to town - customer will be Google. Going to be doing a lot of micro trenching. They plan to join the NRCGA. They've been operating in Vegas since Nov. 2023.

13. **Norfield** – No representative present.



50 IN 5 INITIATIVE:

14. The Plan to Reduce Damages to 50% in 5 Years (Lynsay Demko)

Lynsay is working on a way for members to vote on priorities, then create a committee meeting. What do we want to focus on that will have a larger rate of return and help with locate, utility and damage prevention side. Email will be coming out from Dawn, but Lynsay will be the main contact. IF anyone has an idea on strategy, contact Lynsay by phone or email.

15. Google Fiber Progress in the Valley (Betty Chang) (Item added during the meeting)

The company's franchise was approved last month. Working on engineering now and soon to go to permitting. Ervin Cable Construction will be working for Google Fiber. Betty will provide a forecast of installation as soon as she has it. One of the reason Betty attends our meetings in person is to establish relationships with locators, etc., before construction starts.

Next Meeting: May 21, 2024