



Northern Ohio Damage Prevention Council

MISSION STATEMENT: Northern Ohio Damage Prevention Council is a proactive network of stakeholders involved in all phases of activities requiring excavation. Through open communication, education, and cooperation, council members work together to maintain service integrity to customers, protect the underground infrastructure and environment, and encourage the development of excavation activities that proceed in a safe and efficient manner.

Minutes for October 2, 2019

Great Lakes Construction
2608 Great Lakes Way
Hinckley, OH 44233

Presenter: Bill Hocevar

Topic: UTC Updates

Meeting opened at 9:36 by Bruce Jones. Introduced this month's speaker, Bill Hocevar of Great Lakes Construction.

Bill Hocevar began by introducing himself. He is the Safety Director and also sits on the Underground Technical Committee (UTC).

- Comprised of 17 people who are selected by the Governor or other government officials.
- Bill is serving on the committee for four years.
- Let someone know if you would like to be appointed.
- They meet every three months or as necessary.
- Last year, they heard 50 different cases.
 - 10 were thrown out
 - 40 companies were penalized.
 - Typically discipline with a Performance Improvement Plan—company has to hold internal training and show that it was effective. If effective, fines are waived. They have 30 days to complete the training.
 - Fines are: \$1,000 for the first offense and \$5,000 for the second offense.
- They are going to be getting harsher with enforcement.
- They have money to spend on training so please let them know if you would like to utilize them for training.
- It is looking like they will end up hearing 80-90 claims in 2019.
- The Service Monitoring Enforcement Committee in the PUCO votes on the performance of the UTC. They voted that they were adequate.
- You have to be an aggrieved party to file a complaint.
 - Parties do not get a chance to talk to the UTC.
 - Send in all paperwork/files.
 - They review it and make a decision within 90 days.
- Question: Have hospitals been fined yet?
- Bill: No, we haven't seen any complaints. Remember, you have to be a utility owner to be an aggrieved party.
- Roger: The definition of an aggrieved party is you have to have a responsibility to the law. Hospitals, military bases, college campuses are all private property. But, if they are crossing the public Right-of-Way then it could be an issue.
- Question: Once a case has been heard and outcome has been given, does that become public record?
- Bill: No, the minutes just say that we reviewed the case, not the outcome.

Introduction of members

September 4, 2019 minutes were reviewed & amended. A motion to approve/accept was presented by Justin Freudeman.

OHIO811 Updates and Announcements (Chuck Green)

- 132,218 tickets in September, up 14.4%
- 925,520 notices went out
- 1,102,000 tickets have been called in year to date
- Up around 4.9% for the year
- October 4 is the Big Brothers/Sisters Clay Sporting Event. They've had a large number of people sign up for this year.
- November 1 will be the NODPC Clay Sporting Event, still working out the costs, etc. Event flyer coming out on Monday.
- Excavator Seminars Coming Up:
 - 10/23, 10/24, 10/25 (breakfast meeting) in Logan, Bluffton
 - 11/6 in Waldo, OH
 - 11/7 in Wooster
 - 11/8 is a breakfast meeting in Elyria
 - Available on OUPS.org website
- December 6 will be our annual breakfast meeting at Sleepy Hollow
- OHIO811 Safety Trailer will be ready by the end of next week.
 - It will be on display at a few events (USIC, French Lick Safety Summit)
 - Lee Richards manages the calendar
 - Sponsors get it at no charge.
 - We will have it at the December breakfast meeting at Sleepy Hollow.
 - It is equipped with gas meters, water meters, a plexiglass floor, it is an interactive trailer.

Marking Standards

- Johnny was not at meeting.
- Chuck stated that the back-loop standard will be in the new book. They will have it available soon. It's never too early to start thinking about changes you'd like to see.

2020 Speakers

- Roger suggested we focus at least one meeting on Trenching
- Trench safety, shoring and trench rescue
- Bill and Kimberly will work together to get a meeting coordinated

Open Forum

- Bruce: Fencing Companies and Landscapers are having homeowners signed contracts stating that they are the ones responsible for calling in the ticket.
- Chuck: You need to tell them that is not okay. Whomever is performing the work needs to call in the ticket. If that doesn't work, come to me.

Attendance Drawing

- Joe Potoma was selected and won \$75. Next month it will be \$25.

Motion to end the meeting was given by Jim Buetel.

Minutes Approved: _____

Kimberly Madden, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting November 6, 2019
Presenter: Les Hendershot, Safetyman Consulting

The Illuminating Company
6896 Miller Rd.
Brecksville, OH 44141

Email: kmadden@firstenergycorp.com to confirm your attendance. Thank you.

Utilities Council of Northern Ohio - Scheduled Meetings Dates for 2019

January 2, 2019	No Meeting due to holiday	*
February 6, 2019	Rick Switalski, City of Cleveland	The Illuminating Company
March 6, 2019	Joint DPC meeting	*Dominion East Ohio's New Training Facility
April 3, 2019	Michael Carlton, GPD Group	The Illuminating Company
May 1, 2019	Jim Chaney, 811 Race	The Illuminating Company
June 7, 2019	Annual Golf Outing	*Briarwood Golf Club
July, 2019	No meeting due to holiday	*
August 7, 2019	Fire Department	The Illuminating Company
September 4, 2019	Kent Crytzer, Construction Employers Association	The Illuminating Company
October 2, 2019	Bill Hocevar, UTC Update	*Great Lakes Construction
November 6, 2019	Les Hendershot, Safetyman	The Illuminating Company
December 6, 2019	Annual Breakfast	*

Please contact us at <http://www.oups.org/DPCouncils>