

Minutes: Nash-Edgecombe-Wilson UCC Meeting

February 17, 2017. 12 noon, Gardner's, Rocky Mount.

Municipalities/Organizations present:

- City of Rocky Mount
- City of Wilson
- Piedmont Natural Gas
- Edgecombe County Water/Sewer
- NC811
- Digital Repair

(See attachment for names and contact numbers of attendees. Add missing email address for Earl Eley: earleley@rockymountnc.gov)

Howard Corey of NC811 began with a general introduction. There are 47 UCC's in 81 different counties, but they vary in how often they meet (monthly, bi-monthly, or quarterly). Each has elected officers that typically change yearly.

Corey said there are several purposes of UCC meetings:

-To present a list of projects, planned or ongoing, in order to inform other agencies where digging will happen. For example, if DOT is going to work near a roadway, that could potentially impact work for multiple agencies. Cooperative sharing of advance information could help utilities plan ahead, including knowing about planned power outages.

-To share issues or concerns (ex. In Jacksonville, it was reported at another UCC meeting that some contractors had been calling in "emergency" locates for jobs that are not emergencies, thereby tying up members with work that was not urgent.)

-To get updates from 811 (on ticket volume in local counties, geographic distribution of work, information on damaged lines based on type of industry)

-To share information from 811 on state or regional events (ex. A marquee/sign contest for local fire departments- more information on this is available on the 811 website, www.nc811.org)

-To network and share contact information between local members in case help or information is needed

-To assist with registration for agencies who are not currently members. Corey said if an agency is not a member, they cannot be informed by 811 of planned excavations near their facilities.

General discussion:

-Shirley Byrd asked about positive response tickets where six members are listed as having facilities at a given site, but not all respond. She said 811 and USIC are members but may not appear to respond but are active in the case.

-Howard Corey gave details about three hour tickets: if an agency plans to dig at a site and has already submitted a ticket for a locate request, goes to the site, and finds evidence of a utility there that has NOT marked its lines, then a three hour ticket is requested. That utility then has three hours to get out there and locate its lines in order to prevent accidental disruption of service.

-Shirley Byrd told about Survey Crews for a DOT Tiger Grant project that were marking utilities in Wilson, not with the pink paint (designated for surveys) but with the regular colored paint that indicates utilities. She said this was causing confusion for the utility companies, especially when the lines were not marked correctly by the Survey Crews. Howard advised informing DOT what was going on. Buck Pittman said some survey companies "dot" with paint, rather than spray lines.

-Shirley Byrd asked if a contractor calls in a ticket for a locate but then digs after the area is marked and still hits a line, does he still need to call in the damage? Howard Corey said yes, because 811 needs to track those incidents.

-Howard Corey spoke about damages and if complaints or grievances are filed. He said there is a Board that reviews the complaints. Last year, 67 complaint notices were reviewed, and action was taken on 65 of them. Of the latter, some were levied with fines and some were required to have training. He advised everyone to take pictures of any damages in order to provide clear proof.

-One of Rocky Mount's folks asked if white lining was going to be required in the future. Howard Corey said it is not currently state law to require everyone to white line unless someone could not adequately describe the area that was located. It would require a change in the law to require white lining on all locates.

-There was general discussion about how some companies or contractors were not specific when asking that an area be located. For example, a cable company put in a request to locate the entire City Lake area of Rocky Mount, which has eight mains- when in reality, all they needed was a small area located. Howard Corey said this is an example of where white lining would be beneficial. This happens when someone states on the ticket to "locate entire site", and should have white lined the smaller area they were interested in.

Buck Pittman and Garland Clark were chosen as Vice-Chairs of this UCC, Nancy West-Brake volunteered as Secretary. Howard Corey will send out emails one week before and one day before the next meeting, which will be at 12 noon, on Tuesday, March 28th, in Wilson at a location to be determined. The meetings will rotate among Nash, Wilson and Edgecombe counties. It was decided that if every three months was not often enough to discuss current projects, the meetings could be changed to every two months, or information could be shared via emails.

Nash
Edgecombe

UCC Sign-In Sheet County: Wilson Date: 2/17/2017

Name	Company	Email	Phone Number
William P. HMTAN	City of Rocky Mount	william.p.hmtan@nc.gov	252-885-6127
Annex Jones	City of Rocky Mt		252-567-0353
Tim Colby	City of Wilson	tcolby@wilsonnc.org	252-265-2013
Shirley Byrd	City of Wilson	shirley@wilsonnc.org	252-205-8834
Howard Corey	NC811	howard@nc811.org	336-317-5999
Robert Norton	Piedmont Natural Gas	robert.norton@duke-energy.com	252-641-8403
EARL ELEY	Rocky Mount	EARL.ELEY@ROCKYMOUNTNC.GOV	252-343-3216
Travis Savage	Piedmont Natural Gas	Travis.Savage@piedmontng.com	252-801-1677
Aaron Walker	Piedmont Natural Gas	aaron.walker@piedmontng.com	252-406-5595
Garland Clark	City of Rocky Mount	garland.clark@rockymountnc.gov	252-467-4814
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J.R. Reader	Piedmont Natural Gas	James.Reader@duke-energy.com	252-904-6148
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