



MD/DC Damage Prevention Committee

Kevin Woolbright, Chairman
George Daffan, Vice Chairman
Susan Sullivan, Secretary

Minutes of the meeting for January 23, 2024
Hybrid Meeting hosted by Miss Utility in Hanover, MD
Prepared by Susan Sullivan

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairman Kevin Woolbright called the regular monthly meeting to order at 9:34 AM. There were thirty-six (36) attendees onsite and twenty-five (25) virtual attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the November 28, 2023, minutes was made by Michael Jewell (Columbia Gas) and seconded by Shelly Masone (Ecotech). The motion carried by approval.

The approved meeting minutes will be posted at <https://www.missutility.net/excavators/>.

OPEN DISCUSSION

A question from Kris Dietrich (New Direction Utilities) ascertained whether locators have access to a ticket's polygon. Jennifer Arroyo (Miss Utility) answered that every ticket, once released, includes the mapping. However, whether the mapping is received by the owner member or its contract locator depends on their receiving software. It was also noted that the user created polygon is for member notification. Although it can be used as an additional tool by a locator, it is the Extent of Work field that is used for marking purposes. Kris also brought up and asked questions about a recent damage his company incurred. Multiple attendees provided information and feedback.

Sean Paris (Ft. Meyer) inquired about D.C. Verizon locates as his tickets are currently not being stasured. David Knox (Utiliquest) shared that starting Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 7:00AM, Utiliquest would be taking over D.C. Verizon locates. David and Daniel Blais provided their contact information in the meeting chat.

- David Knox | UtiliQuest | david.knox@utiliquest.com | 703-675-9236
- Daniel Blais | Operation Managers | daniel.blais@utiliquest.com | 571-259-9541

Sean followed up by asking why Emergency Ticket Response Due By dates are the same as a Standard Ticket's RDB dates. Jennifer referenced the emergency exception clauses, found in both Title 12 and 34, thereby requiring the same RDB dates as a Standard Ticket. See law references below.

MD: §12–121 (c) (1).

The owner–member or its contract locator shall:

- (i) respond to an emergency notice as soon as possible but not later than 2 hours from the transmission of the ticket from the one–call system; and
- (ii) except for circumstances beyond an owner–member’s or contract locator’s control and for municipal corporations, considering the hours of operation and availability of employees:
 - 1. begin the locating process to mark their respective underground facility or facilities within 3 hours after the transmission of the ticket; or
 - 2. if the facility owner has no underground facilities within the delineated excavation area, clear the ticket within 3 hours after the transmission of the ticket.

DC: § 34–2709. Emergency excavation or demolition.

Compliance with the notice requirements of § 34-2704 shall not be required for an emergency excavation or demolition involving an imminent danger to life, health, or property; provided, that reasonable precautions have been taken to protect underground facilities. The appropriate utility operators shall, in any event, be notified directly and as soon as possible. The appropriate utility operator shall respond by marking the approximate horizontal location of the underground facility within 2 hours of notification of the emergency excavation or demolition, where practicable. An imminent danger to life, health, or property exists whenever there is a substantial likelihood that loss of life, health, or property will result before the procedures under § 34-2704 can be fully complied with.

Links to both Maryland Title 12 and D.C. Title 34 can be found at: <https://www.missutility.net/> under the Law Links tab.

Joe Shelton (BF Joy) thanked Utiliquest for its quick decision in taking over the D.C. Verizon locate contract.

Wen Liang (Anchor) highlighted the negative impact it has on contractors when contract locate companies abruptly cease locating and asked if there was a way to communicate with contractors when contract locate companies are in transition. Kevin Woolbright (DPC Chairman) replied that owner members are not required and generally do not communicate this type of information.

Ian Jones (BGE) is transitioning out of his current position. His replacement to be announced in the next few weeks. Please reach out to Marc Haines in the meantime.

Philip Dethlefs (Shentel Glo Fiber) initiated a discussion on virtual white lining. Various input was shared by attendees. Jennifer Arroyo stated that virtual white lining still limits what can be received by some vendors. Scott Brown (WGL) acknowledged that there is a national discussion on virtual white lining and its potential benefits. He briefly shared examples of what other states are doing and that although not perfect, MD and VA are progressively encouraging virtual white lining at the legislative level.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS

Jennifer Arroyo (Miss Utility) introduced the Miss Utility Online Dashboards and shared a preview. Although not yet available, she explained that this new tool may assist contractors with selecting start work dates that show lower ticket volume and/or Response Due By Date volume. Although created to aid utility owner members and subscribers, the availability for contractors to view real time ticket volume may result in the normalization of locator ticket volume by reducing spikes in demand that often occurs when the volume of incoming tickets is at its greatest.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Courtney Tolson | SAM Companies

Courtney Tolson, Project Manager for MD/VA introduced himself and shared his presentation titled: SAM Services & the Importance of Damage Prevention and Underground Utility Mapping. SAM Companies provides professional underground utility mapping services that include Subsurface Utility Engineering (SUE), GPS and 3D Mapping. Other Damage Prevention Services include: Inventory Recording of both legacy and capital facilities, untoneable facility repair, ticket risk field response and standby services. He stressed the value their specialized capabilities and services have on reducing the risks associated with various types of excavation activities including those involving natural gas, electric, telecommunications and transportation, as well as state, municipal, federal, and publicly funded projects.

MISS UTILITY CALL CENTER

➤ ITICnxt Virtual Training

- Upcoming trainings: February 1 | March 7 | April 4
- Please visit <http://missutility.tryitic.com/> for multiple ITICnxt resources.
- All 2024 Virtual ITICnxt Training dates and preregistration links are posted at <https://www.missutility.net/calendar-events/>.

➤ Dashboard Reporting: Jennifer Arroyo provided ticket volume data for the month of December 2023.

- Inbound ticket volume: 66,076 a monthly increase of 3.898% compared to 2022
- Outbound volume: 345,447 a year-to-date decrease of 3.437% compared to 2022

➤ Damage Reporting: Susan Sullivan provided YTD data through December 2023 of reported damages in MD/DC.

- 1,212 utility damages (288 mains and 924 services)
- 24.09% due to no call or valid ticket
- 33.00% due to hitting a marked line
- 33.09% due to incorrect locate marks
- 9.82% due to other root causes

MARYLAND AUTHORITY | Jim Barron, Executive Director |

- The Authority held an Open Meeting and Closed Executive Session on December 13, 2023. The Authority:
 - Reviewed 3rd Quarter Financials.
 - Held an Authority Member Orientation since there are several new members.

- Postponed the NPV's scheduled for review in Closed Executive Session to the January 10th meeting due to the lateness of the Closed Executive Session.
- The Authority held an Open Meeting and Closed Executive Session on January 10, 2024.
 - Because only six (6) members attended the meeting, members voted to postpone the election of officers to the February 14th meeting.
 - There was a review of 4th Quarter Financials.
 - Formal Hearings scheduled for February were rescheduled for the March 13th meeting at the request of the Probable Violators.
 - The Authority currently has twenty (20) NPV's to investigate and review.
 - The Authority renewed its CGA Membership and added James Dudley and Keith Dill in place of previous members, Amber Brengel, and Kelly Ruddo to the active membership list.
 - In Closed Executive Session the Authority postponed one NPV because two (2) Authority Members (the complainant and the probable violator) would have to recuse themselves leaving the Authority short of a quorum.
 - The Authority reviewed one (1) NPV for a Marking Violation and three (3) for No Ticket 1st Offense Violations.
 - The Authority voted to send a Warning Letter to Top Property Flippers, LLC for allegedly working in the City of Havre de Grace without a Miss Utility Ticket.
- The Authority's lobbyist is receiving push back on the proposal to raise the \$0.05 per out going ticket to \$0.10 per out going ticket. It was decided to not drop the legislation this year and do it next year. That includes the legislation to change the end date of Authority Member Terms. The Authority will begin to work the legislation by having meetings with the major facility owners and legislators starting in September 2024.
 - The next meeting will be an Open Meeting with a Closed Executive Session on February 14, 2024.

Title-12 Re-Write:

The Authority plans to drop legislation in 2025 to change the date when Authority Member's Terms expire from September 30th to April 30th and for the addition of \$0.05 per outgoing tickets.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2024 GCDPTC | Matt Ruddo, Chairman (OCC)

- Save the Date: Oct. 22-25, 2024
- Ashore Resort & Beach Club
- Upcoming Committee Meeting 1.31.24

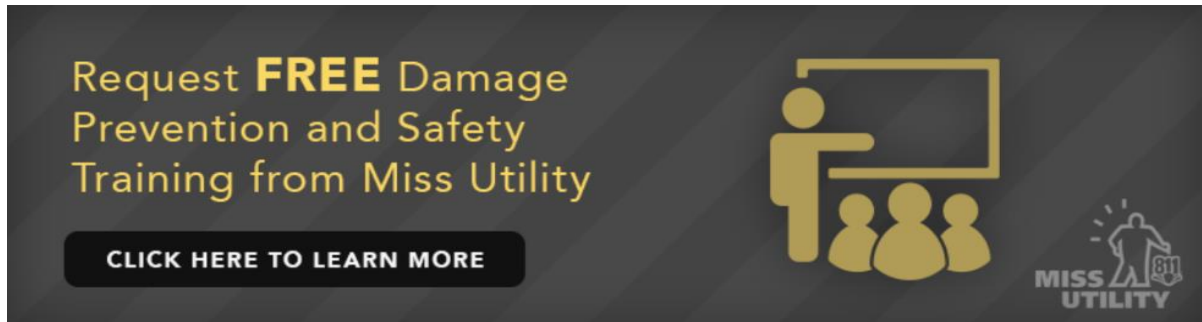
DAMAGE PREVENTION AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Kevin Woolbright, Chairman | George Daffan, Co-Chair

- DPT Upcoming:
 - January 26: Open DPT @ Miss Utility
 - February 2: CJ Miller
 - February 16: Virtual DPT
 - February 22: Gray & Son
 - February 23: Open DPT @ Miss Utility

- DPT Completed:
 - December 5: Town of North East

For more information about the various training platforms available, as well as, upcoming training dates and pre-registration links, please visit www.missutility.net and click on the banner below for more information.



➤ Miss Utility Facebook

Please visit www.facebook.com/missutilityofmd/ for dig safe posts, holiday announcements, call center notices/information and current events. Please like or share posts to show your support for Miss Utility and the dig safe message.



➤ MGH Marketing Update

- Trade Show Updates
 - Washington County Home Builders Home Show (March 2-3)
 - Maryland Spring Home & Garden Show (March 2-3 & 8-10)
 - Maryland Contractor Summit (March 6)
 - Maryland Asphalt Association & Maryland State Highway Administration Annual Paving Conference (March 13)
- 2024 Scholarship Program | Scott Brown - Chair
 - The 2024 Miss Utility of Maryland/D.C. scholarship will be opening on January 24th.
 - The deadline to apply is Friday, May 24 at 11:59 p.m.

- The online application can be found at <https://form.jotform.com/MissUtility/Scholarship24>.
- Please help in promoting the scholarship and share it with your networks.
- 2024 Awards | Kevin Woolbright | Chairman
 - Locator Achievement Awards
 - January 22nd: Kicks off the 21st annual Locator Achievement Awards nomination period.
 - May 10th: Winners will be invited to a Bowie Baysox game and banquet to thank them for maintaining faultless safety and damage prevention practices. We were thrilled that last year’s event received a record high attendance.
 - Dig Smart Awards
 - The 2023-2024 Dig Smart Awards application will launch this summer.

CONSTRUCTION ANGELS | Kevin Woolbright, CA Board Representative for MD/DC

- Kevin shared that 36 families nationwide, received assistance in 2023 totaling \$336,000.
- 2024 CA Scholarship Applications are now open. For more information, go to: <https://www.constructionangels.us/scholarship-application/>
 - There is a total of \$100,000 available for 2024 scholarship distribution.
 - Please reach out to Kevin with any questions.

There being no further business brought before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:54 AM.

Upcoming 2024 Hybrid MD/DC Damage Prevention & Safety Meetings

- February 27
- March 26
- April 23

ONSITE ATTENDANCE:

Allied Contractors, Inc.	Tim Wiley Materials Coordinator	(443) 500-6590	twiley@alliedcontractor.com
Anchor Construction	Wen Liang VP	(703) 927-3807	wliang@anchorconst.com
BGE	Marc Haines BOD, Electric Rep	(443) 324-0371	marc.haines@bge.com
BGE	Ian Jones Supervisor	(410) 470-8217	ian.jones@bge.com
Colonial Pipeline Co.	Scott Moore Right of Way	(443) 821-1797	smoore@colpipe.com
Columbia Gas	Michael Jewell Leader Operations Support Specialist	(614) 307-5304	mjewell@nisource.com

Construction Angels	Kevin Woolbright DPC Chairman CA Board Representative for MD/DC	(301) 806-8745	bright.67@verizon.net
CW & Sons Infrastructure, Inc	Edwin Flores Safety Coordinator	(202) 924-9951	eflores@cwsons.com
DXI Construction	Christina Jacobs Ticket Processor	443-981-9851	cjacobs@dxiconstruction.com
DXI Construction	Randy Spurlock Management	(703) 946-6169	rspurlock@dxiconstruction.com
Ecotech Hydro Excavation LLC	Shelly Masone Business Development Director	443-534-6276	Shelly@goecotech.com
Ferguson Trenching	Mary Hill Safety Manager	(443) 510-9959	maryh@fergusontrenching.com
Gaines and Company	Dominic Pope Safety Director	(443) 386-1383	dpope@gainesandco.com
Gray & Son	Lenny Corbin Safety Director	(410) 365-4156	lcorbin@graynson.com
Gray & Son	Shelly Welling Safety Specialist	(410) 771-4311	swelling@graynson.com
Inframap Corp	Dimitri Payne SUE Project Manager	(240) 507-7595	dimitri.payne@inframap.net
KCI	Cody Turner	(443) 617-2894	cody.turner@kci.com
MUFDPA	Jim Barron Executive Director	(410) 782-2102	jim.barron@mddpa.org
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Jennifer Arroyo General Manager	(410) 782- 2101	jennifer@occinc.com
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Susan Sullivan DPC Secretary	(410) 782-2030	ssullivan@missutility.net
SAM, LLC	Courtney Tolson Project Manager	(571) 359-7414	courtney.tolson@sam.biz
SAM, LLC	John Hannel Gas Distribution Market Lead	(317) 850-5635	JHannel@sam.biz
SAM, LLC	Andrew Costell	(614) 787-3591	acostell@sam.biz
SMECO	Lisa Hurley Locating Coordinator	(410) 535-9403	lisa.hurley@smeco.coop
Utiliquest	George Daffan DPC Vice Chairman Operations Manager	(301) 399-7975	george.daffan@utiliquest.com

Utiliquest	Justin Lowthert Assistant Manager	(301) 343-8162	justin.lowthert@utiliquest.com
UtiliQuest	Mike Burns Operations Manager	(443) 786-7994	mike.burns@utiliquest.com
Verizon	Jeff Sothoron Maryland Miss Utility Compliance	(240) 446-3738	jeffrey.p.sothoron@verizon.com
Verizon	Dwayne Stine Damage Investigation, Prevention and Western MD	(410) 274-1221	dwayne.a.stine@verizon.com
Verizon	Mark Pressimone Damage Prevention	(301) 830-3118	mark.l.pressimone@verizon.com
Verizon	Charles Dimattei Damage Investigator Howard County	(410) 960-4216	charles.dimattei@verizon.com
Verizon	John Williams Damage Investigator Balt County West	(410) 279-2152	john.x.williams@one.verizon.com
Verizon	Colin Redford Damage Investigator	(410) 746-9308	colin.t.redford@verizon.com
Verizon	Dawn Sims	(240) 917-6430	dawn.sims@verizon.com
Verizon	Steven Lewin Damage Investigator DC	(410) 777-0785	steven.m.lewin@verizon.com
WSSC	Diane Spriggs	(301) 704-0208	diane.spriggs@wsscwater.com

TEAMS ATTENDANCE

Anchor Construction	Scott Kirkwood Safety Manager	(301) 247-5833	skirkwood@anchorconst.com
AT&T	Richard Malone Field Services Manager	(302) 287-6660	rx9552@att.com
BF JOY	Joe Shelton BOD, Contractor Rep	(240) 417-0200	jshelton@bfjoy.com
Childs Landscape	Becky Mellinger Sales Admin	(410) 974-0528	bmellinger@childslandscape.com
Concrete General	Dan Dickerson Safety Director	(301) 252-6775	safety@concretegeneral.com
CW & Sons Infrastructure, Inc	Jesus Cruz Director of Safety	(301) 213-2153	jcruz@cwsons.com
DCI	Heather Fowkes Q.C. Supervisor	(202) 913-6848	hfowkes@dcihq.com
Delmarva Site Development	Raul Gallinate Safety Director	(443) 871-6577	Rgallinate@delmarvasite.com

Ferguson Trenching Company	Jack Long Superintendent	(240) 309-7095	jackl@fergusontrenching.com
Fort Myer Construction Corp	Sean Paris Damage Prevention Investigation	(202) 498-2598	sparis@fortmyer.com
Howard County	Pieter Aarsbergen Regulations Inspector	(410) 313-7525	paarsbergen@howardcountmd.gov
Howard County	David Watts Operations Superintendent	(410) 313-4971	dwatts@howardcountymd.gov
Howard County Bureau of Utilities	Scott Baucom Operations Superintendent	(410) 313-4978	sbaucom@howardcountymd.gov
New Direction Utilities	Kris Dietrich Safety Manager	(301) 302-9676	kristian@newdirectionutilities.com
RE Harrington Plumbing & Heating Company	Latreasa Easley Safety Manager	(410) 466-4800	leasley@reharrington.com
RE Harrington Plumbing Heating Utilities Co	Mardel King Administrative Assistant	(410) 466-4800	mking@reharrington.com
RK&K	Bill Jackson Senior Utility Coordinator	(443) 852-1323	bjackson@rkk.com
Shentel Glo Fiber	Davy Myers II Damage Prevention	(540) 325-8373	davy.myers@emp.shentel.com
Shentel Glo Fiber	Philip Dethlefs Damage Investigator	(850) 313-3256	Philip.Dethlefs@emp.shentel.com
Shentel Glofiber	Kerwin Ralls Project Manager Damage Prevention	(540) 335-0013	kerwin.ralls@emp.shentel.com
Skyline	Ryan Burns Supervisor	(410) 920-1361	rburns@skylinenet.net
Utiliquest	Erik Phillips Director of Operations	(443) 324-7835	erik.phillips@utiliquest.com
Utiliquest	David Knox DC Territory	(703) 675-9236	david.knox@utiliquest.com
WGL	Greg Mason Sr. Damage Prevention Specialist	(571) 666-1493	gregory.mason@washgas.com
WSSC Water	Lisa Malone Administrative Contract Manager	(301) 206-8465	lisa.malone@wsscwater.com