



# North Carolina Utilities Coordinating Committee

## Meeting Minutes

July 11, 2017 @ 10:00 AM

PSNC Energy

15 Overland Industrial Blvd.

Asheville, NC. 28806

## Called to Order & Welcomed Guest

- Tim Yarbrow called the meeting to order @ 10:00AM
- Approval of agenda motion made by Kevin Johnson seconded by Paul Carrico all accepted.
- Billy Rice PSNC went over housekeeping and emergency evacuations.
- Robert Yu Safety Share on topic of working with high Temperatures and staying hydrated and drinking plenty of fluids while not at work. Carry cell phone while working in case of emergency.

## Introductions

- Tim Yarbrow started self-introductions and invited attendees to do the same.

## ● Old Business

- Review of March & April Minutes, April Motion made to approve by Kevin Johnson seconded by Roger Richards, March Motion made by Teresa VonCannon seconded by Ann Rushing all approved.

## Officers' Reports

- **Chair** — Billy Rice- Thanked Tim Yarbrow for his support of the NCUCC and commitment for damage prevention. Went over the

importance of the officer's positions and commitments they have to the NCUCC Mission.

- **Co-Chair** — Chase Gibson-None
- **Treasurer** — Sandra Johnson-balance of \$8,716.39
- **Secretary** — Robert Yu-None

## **New Business**

- 2018 NCUCC Officer. Robert Yu with USIC, LLC. was nominated as the new Secretary
- Motion made by Ann Rushing and seconded by Tim Yarbrow to accept vote of Robert Yu as Secretary NCUCC all approved.
- NC/SC Conference in Cherokee discussion was made to look in to some type of entertainment during Thursday night dinner. Chase Gibson/Billy Rice is going to look into this topic to be discussed at later meeting in 2017.

## **Open Discussion**

- Ann Rushing gave NC811 presentation. If anyone requires a copy of the presentation, .PDF file can be obtained by visiting [NCUCC.org](http://NCUCC.org).
- Tim Yarbrow informed the group that AT&T Light-GIG activity has slowed down significantly, along with Google Fiber activity
- Paul Carrico w/AT&T mentioned that Level3 fiber work has been increasing in various markets.
- Ann Rushing informed the group about issues with the billboards in Charlotte, NC. Space and cost has escalated. Looking to extend the contract to reduce future invoices. This also includes the Fayetteville, NC. market.
- Billy Rice mentioned that the group needs to consider changing the outdated NCUCC logo. Redesign recommendations were discussed.
- Ann Rushing stated that NC811 IT (Steve Moore 811) could assist with the process and asked that we provide NC811 with a draft sketch.
- Teresa VonCannon encouraged the group to have a contest for the new logo and to have the submittals by January 18, 2018 and consider a rollout at the State conference. Mark Worth seconded the motion.
- Billy Rice asked everyone to consider a prize for the winning logo. Ann Rushing mentioned a free registration to State conference and or \$100.00 gift card. Seconded by Virginia
- Billy Rice mentioned posting the agenda to NC811/State UCC website 3 weeks prior to the date of the meeting. This could help drive participation by allowing attendees' supervisor to approve the travel. Ann Rushing agreed to post to website and Tim Yarbrow seconded. The motion for this request was approved by all.

## Reports

- NCDOT expects higher volume for next 5 years. Focus on project delivery. New budget will allow NCDOT to keep all projects on-schedule in all 14 divisions
- Amanda Miller asked NCDOT for a list of working projects. DOT said the list is currently a work in progress.
- Paul Carrico asked NCDOT of any discussion to expand the RoW to alleviate congestion. DOT stated this topic has been discussed, along with budget
- Ann Rushing made everyone aware of the selfie contest. #811lowes
- Mark Schuman informed the group about western NC BBQ. July 22<sup>nd</sup> at Maggie valley hot air balloon ride.
- Amanda Miller stated that they are expecting additional funds to their budget for next 10 years to heighten awareness on dig-ins. Also discussed “Cardinal Safe Digging Rules”
- Tim Yarbrow said AT&T Business as Usual (BAU) activity is going strong
- JCB Equipment MFG. said they plan to be more involved and engaged in excavation community and plan to provide additional information
- Kevin Johnson with PSNC said they are utilizing Southern Cross locating and that they are still finding locate requests where the work is already completed upon arrival.
- Anna Hamlett with Williams Pipeline is concerned with excavators digging before locates are clear. Also asked about near-miss report
- Regina Canovai stated they are unable to report damages to NC811 on weekends and suggested we call for an emergency locate to report damage(s). Positive response issues about code 60 (agreement) when we are not aware of any agreement or incorrect response were discussed. Also asked to check junk mail; in case your mail client is redirecting to other folders.
- Kevin Johnson with PSNC said code 61 is not matching up with NC811 positive response codes.
- Mark Worth with PSNC asked Regina Canovai to first communicate with locate provider before filing a complaint. Communication is key. PSNC is also working to resolve the conflict with their code 61.
- Ann Rushing with NC811 stated 1) All facility owner(s) MUST give a positive response. 2) All excavators MUST check positive response before excavating. 3) Encouraged everyone to utilize the NC811 App to check Positive Response (PR). 4) DPRB should be the last option
- Paul Carrico asked to be informed of anyone submitting a false PR.
- Billy Rice stated that damage notification should be made “as soon as practical.” Restoring service is the priority.
- Anna Hamlett said they have upcoming maintenance from Reidsville to Clayton, NC.
- Mark Worth informed the group about Raleigh cross-bore inspection initiative. Placement of “green’ paint boxes has not caused any issues...so far. Billy Rice followed up by saying that sewer rooters to clean clogged lines pose a great danger and welcome the inspection.

- Paul Carrico said AT&T has one of the highest number of transmissions and concerns with multiple recalls resulting in damages to AT&T facilities. Cost of repeat tickets are increasing and asked that we avoid unnecessary calls. Also, asked that callers provide detailed excavation area and or white-line the job. Be very specific on your locate instructions to avoid bottle-necking the workflow/system.
- Kevin Comalander with Spirit Communication said they have a 750-mile fiber project. 300 miles in Charlotte, 250 miles in Raleigh-Durham and 200 miles in the Triad. 3 ducts w/288 fiber and more builds to follow. Wade Morrison with Utilis has a distribution list and currently sending daily/weekly report of activity.
- Kevin Johnson w/PSNC stated the Foothills UCC will meet at Big Dave's family Seafood on Aug 1<sup>st</sup>. Can we have equipment rental companies to ask for locate number? A Rushing made mention that Lowes is participating. 7-20 @ 11:30 is the Buncombe UCC breakfast at Ryan's Steakhouse.
- Roger Richard's with Sanders Utility reported they rolled out a new process to purge tickets every 2 weeks. City of Charlotte is removing fiber marker due to not meeting their "standard". NC811 white-line video may be out in next 30 days. Roger encourages everyone to start white-lining and said this new practice at Sander's has paid dividends.
- Chris Russ & Ann Rushing encourages good/clean tickets. White-line with Company name and date to avoid confusion with locate service providers.
- Billy Rice has observed multiple white-lined jobs on the same locating, causing some confusion. Encouraged everyone to utilize water based paint and to avoid solvent based paint. Kevin Johnson also reiterated the same concern and suggestion by Billy Rice.
- Mark Worth made mention of some concerning chatter about certain local UCC's losing focus. Asked that all members to take ownership and get engaged. Paul Carrico with AT&T and Amanda Miller shared the same concern. Need better participation from leadership of each UCC to make better decisions to drive performance.
- Carl Owenby said Henderson, Transylvania and Poke County UCC's are failing. Looking for help to get better participation. Ann Rushing with NC811 agreed to assist.
- Ann Rushing said the information posted to NCUCC.org will hopefully assist with increasing participation. Ann also asked that we make local UCC meetings more interactive to get more people engaged.

## **Next Meeting –**

**We look forward to seeing everyone in Concord**

**PSNC Energy @ 1801 Trinity Church Road. Concord, NC. 28027 10:00 AM**

**Lunch will be provided.**

**Meeting Adjourned**

Minutes submitted by: Robert Yu