



MD/DC Damage Prevention Committee

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

Minutes of the meeting for January 28, 2025
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 9:32 AM. There were forty (40) attendees onsite and eighteen (18) virtual attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the November 26, 2024, minutes was made by Regina Lumpkin (NPL) and seconded by Mary Hill (FTC). The motion carried by approval.

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

OPEN DISCUSSION

Satish Patel (WSSC) thanked contract locators and utility owner members for their assistance in getting the numerous emergency water main breaks marked so that WSSC could quickly get to work on the 30-40 breaks that are reported every day. David Wilkins (WSSC) thanked Utiliquest specifically for a job well done during the high demand caused by these regular water main breaks. George Daffan (Utiliquest) noted that since January 1, 2025, they have received over 5,000 emergency locate tickets.

Regina Lumpkin (NPL) thanked George for recently requested updated contact information. Please contact George and/or Marc Haines (BGE) for their updated contact lists.

Julie Martin (Cossentino) asked how best to respond when 48-hour delays are not restated in the time allowed. Jennifer Arroyo (Miss Utility) stated that utility owner members receive a billable 'no status' notice until the ticket is restated. Jim Barron noted that an NPV can be filed but stated that a filed NPV does not have an immediate effect on the status of a ticket. He followed up by stating the importance of expressing concerns and requesting assistance as was done today, during monthly DPC meetings. George Daffan stated that the recent snowfall and State of Emergency in Maryland has been challenging and understands the upset that late/no locates causes. He stated that Utiliquest continues to work hard in an effort to get caught up. He also reassured Julie that there are 4 GPR locators who are also working diligently to keep up. Pushing out start dates may help alleviate some delays.

Scott Moore (Colonial Gas) stressed how important it is that contractors put good contact information on their tickets. Julie Martin stressed the importance of good locator contact information as well.

Lance Thomas (PEPCO) admonished contractors who update tickets once a job has been completed and expressed the need for all stakeholders to stop this behavior.

Craig Rose (OCCLS) asked who files emergency tickets for contractors doing work for utilities. Anyone can file an emergency ticket over the phone if it is confirmed an emergency by the caller. Emergency tickets can be filed via ITIC by a utility or its COC only if permission is granted by said utility and ITIC training has been completed. Jim Barron stated that misuse of the emergency ticket is fineable up to \$5,000.

Jimmy Vargas (BF Joy) asked the best course of action when an abandoned line is damaged. Reporting all damages to utility owners directly is law under Maryland's Title 12. John Williams (Verizon) stated that they try to respond to damages within 2 hours as there are usually people out of service and need to be put back on line as soon as possible.

Satish Patel (WSSC) asked for the best course of action when a ticket's Marking Concerns numbers are not in service. Jennifer Arroyo suggested calling the utility directly for updated phone numbers. He also inquired as to best course of action when there is potential abuse of emergency ticketing by a contractor. Again, Jennifer suggested speaking to contractor directly by educating about emergency ticketing statute. Notification to Miss Utility can also be made.

OLD BUSINESS

- The Miss Utility Board of Directors welcomes Stephen Shelley of Comcast to the Board.
- Mr. Shelley will be seated during the April 3rd Subscribers/BOD Meeting.
- Current Miss Utility Board Member Seat Holders
 - Scott Brown | Chairman | Gas
 - David Wilkins | Vice Chairman | Water/Sewer
 - Marc Hanes | Electric
 - Stephen Shelly| Communication
 - Pieter Aarsbergen | Government
 - Erik Phillips | Contract Locator
 - Joe Shelton | Professional Contractor
 - Kevin Woolbright | DPC Chairman | Non-Voting
 - George Daffan | DPC Vice Chairman | Non-Voting
 - Susan Sullivan | Secretary | Non-Voting

NEW BUSINESS

DPC Guest Speaker Opportunities: If interested or have information or contacts to share, please email Susan.

- 2024 Dig Smart Award Winners
- Contractors with a Safety Message
- MOSH related Safety Talks
- MD Authority Overview

- Product information geared towards safety
- General Safety: First Aid/ Inclement Weather
- Videos

MISS UTILITY CALL CENTER

- Virtual ITICnxt Training
 - Upcoming trainings: February 6 | March 6 | April 10
 - Please visit <http://missutility.tryitic.com/> for multiple ITICnxt resources and a link to all 2024 Virtual ITICnxt training dates and preregistration links.
- Dashboard Reporting: Jennifer Arroyo provided ticket volume data for the month of December 2024.
 - Inbound ticket volume: 67,662 a monthly increase of 2.40% compared to 2023
 - Outbound volume: 349,771 a year-to-date increase of 0.333% compared to 2023
- Damage Reporting: Susan Sullivan provided YTD data through December 2024 of reported damages in MD/DC.
 - 1,329 utility damages (315 mains and 1,014 services)
 - 20.39% due to no call or valid ticket
 - 31.30% due to hitting a marked line
 - 33.30% due to incorrect locate marks
 - 15.27% due to other root causes

MARYLAND AUTHORITY | Jim Barron, Executive Director

Jim reminded attendees of Extent of Work definition as defined by Maryland’s Title 12 Dig Law:

“Extent of work” means a clear and concise description of work to be done at a property, including the property address or specific distance and direction from a specified point, not to exceed 1,320 feet, that completely depicts the scope of work and that the excavator can complete within the designated life of the ticket.

- Between June 17th to the end of September 2024, twenty-one (21) NPVs were filed. One was voided due to form incompleteness.
- From the end of September – January 28, 2025, another 64 NPVs were filed. Two were voided due to form incompleteness and eleven (11) were voided because they were duplicates of other NPVs. Currently there are seventy-one (71) NPVs that are being investigated and reviewed by the Authority.
- The Authority is working to get Notice of Receipt letters out on 51 of the 71 NPVs and Notice of Investigation letters out on most of the 71 NPVs in addition to preparing a few NPVs for review during the February meeting.
- In the November, December, and January meetings the Authority investigated and reviewed 15 NPVs.
- The Authority did not elect officers at the January meeting because there were only six (6) members present and two of them were brand new.

- The Authority’s attorney has reviewed the list of Formal Hearing requests, some of which are old, and has advised us that we can now proceed to send letters to the Formal Hearing parties with dates for Formal Hearings.
- The Deputy Director is completing the Annual Report to the Governor and was beginning to prepare the 2025 Damage Prevention Grant request, but it was recently put on hold by PHMSA.
- The Authority is anticipating the Annual Adequacy Review soon.
- The Authority’s next meeting will be an in-person Open Meeting with a Closed Executive Session on February 12, 2025.

David Wilkins (MD Authority Vice Chairman) announced that The Maryland Authority would be posting a new Executive Director position as part of Mr. Barron’s succession plan. The deadline to submit necessary documents is February 11, 2025. Interviews will take place between February 17-21. Salary will be posted at between \$80,000-\$100,000. No benefits will be offered at this time. Contact David at david.wilkins@wsscwater.com for more information.

Title-12 Re-Write:

No plans for legislation at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

➤ Damage Prevention and Safety Committee

Kevin Woolbright, Chairman | George Daffan, Co-Chair

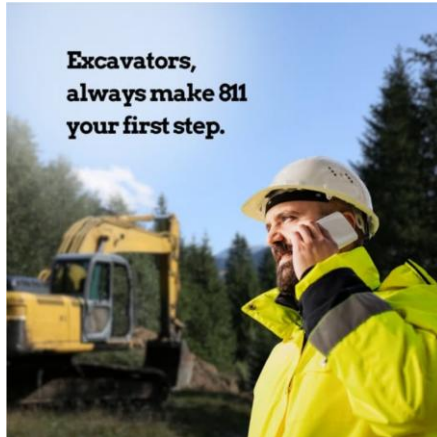
- DPT Upcoming:
 - Jan 23: P Flanigan
 - Feb 04: Montgomery County Public Schools
 - Feb 07: VDPT
 - Feb 13: P Flanigan
 - Feb 18-20: Gray N Son
 - Feb 28: Concrete General
 - March 3: Howard County DPW
 - March 07: Spanish VDPT
 - March 14: ODPT
 - March 31: Montgomery County Public Schools
- DPT Completed:
 - December 13: Open DPT



For information about the various training platforms available, as well as, upcoming training dates and pre-registration links, please visit <https://www.missutility.net/damage-prevention-training/>.

➤ 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.



- Awards Committee Kevin Woolbright | Chair
 - 2025 Locator Achievement Awards nominations now open.
 - The deadline to apply is Thursday, Feb. 20 at 5 p.m.
 - Online form can be found at <https://forms.gle/cx5pEPWj1dm3AbKUA>
 - Winning locators and their families will be recognized at a Bowie Baysox game at Prince George’s Stadium on Friday, May 16.

- 2025 Scholarship Program | Scott Brown | Chair
 - The 2025 Miss Utility of Maryland/D.C. scholarship opened Jan. 27
 - The deadline to apply is Friday, May 23 at 11:59 p.m.
 - The online application can be found at <https://form.jotform.com/MissUtility/Scholarship25>
 - Please help promote the scholarship and share it with your social networks!

- MGH Marketing
 - In March, Miss Utility will be participating in the:
 - Washington County Home Builders Home Show (March 1&2)
 - Maryland Spring Home & Garden Show (March 1 & 2 & 7-9)
 - Maryland Asphalt Association & Maryland State Highway Administration Annual Paving Conference (March 12)

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

- Construction Angels scholarship program is now open. Please visit <https://www.constructionangels.us/> for more information.

There being no further business brought before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Upcoming 2025 Hybrid MD/DC Damage Prevention & Safety Meetings

- March 25 | April 22 | May 27

ONSITE ATTENDANCE:

Anchor Construction	Edisson Bracho Dispatcher & Miss Utility Coordinator	(202) 322-9378	ebracho@anchorconst.com
BF JOY	Joe Shelton BOD, Contractor Rep	(240) 417-0200	jshelton@bfjoy.com
BF JOY	Jimmy Vargas Damage Prevention Investigator	(240) 615-7679	jvargas@bfjoy.com
BGE	Marc Haines BOD, Electric Rep	(443) 324-0371	marc.haines@bge.com
BGE	Paul Gibbs Senior Damage Inspector	(410) 303-1147	milton.gibbs@bge.com
BGE	Cory Holman Damage Prevention	(443) 791-5358	cory.holman@bge.com
Colonial Pipeline Co.	Scott Moore Right of Way	(443) 821-1797	smoore@colpipe.com
Comcast	Stephen J Shelley Beltway Region Planning & Design Supervisor	(443) 243-8904	stephen_shelley2@comcast.com
Comer Construction	Tim Kaptein Director of Safety	(443) 807-2391	tkaptein@comerconstruction.com
Construction Angels	Kevin Woolbright DPC Chairman	(301) 806-8745	bright.67@verizon.net
Cossentino Contracting	Julie Martin Ticket Processor	(301) 806-8745	martin@cossentino.net
Eastcom Associates	Jim Vega Area Sales Manager	(908) 803-0195	jvega@eastcomassoc.com
Elite Utility Locating	Nieal Hollingsworth President	(301) 536-5491	eliteutilitylocating@gmail.com
Ferguson Trenching	Mary Hill Safety Manager	(443) 510-9959	maryh@fergusontrenching.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
MUFDPA	Jim Barron Executive Director	(410) 782-2102	jim.barron@mddpa.org
MUFDPA	Susan Stroud Deputy Director	(410) 782-2102	susan.stroud@mddpa.org

NPL	Regina Lumpkin MU Ticket Specialist	(301) 322-3042	rlumpkin@gonpl.com
NPL	Edie Venit Accounting Services Lead	(571) 220-2261	evenit@gonpl.com
OCCLS	Craig Rose DC Manager	(667) 274-8813	Crose@occls.com
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Susan Sullivan DPC Secretary	(410) 782-2030	ssullivan@missutility.net
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Jennifer Arroyo General Manager	(410) 782- 2101	jennifer@occinc.com
PEPCO	William Okattah-Asare Damage Inspector	(240) 861-8644	William.Okattah- Asare@exeloncorp.com
PEPCO	Lance Thomas System Line Locator		lgthomas@pepco.com
PEPCO	Olitse Bedja Damage Investigator	(202) 255-2755	Olitse.Bedja@exeloncorp.com
PEPCO	Nicholas McCormack Crew Lead	(240) 508-3656	
Utiliquest	George Daffan DPC Vice Chairman	(301) 399-7975	george.daffan@utiliquest.com
Utiliquest	Erik Phillips Vice President of Operations	(443) 324-7835	erik.phillips@utiliquest.com
Verizon	Mark Pressimone Damage Prevention	(301) 830-3118	mark.l.pressimone@verizon.com
Verizon	John Williams Damage Investigator Balt County West	(410) 279-2152	john.x.williams@one.verizon.com
Verizon	Dwayne Stine Damage Investigation, Prevention Western MD	(410) 274-1221	dwayne.a.stine@verizon.com
Verizon	Jeff Sothoron Maryland Miss Utility Compliance	(240) 446-3738	jeffrey.p.sothoron@verizon.com
Verizon	Charles Dimattei Damage Investigator Howard County	(410) 960-4216	charles.dimattei@verizon.com
Verizon	John Sisk Damage Investigator AA County	(410) 960-4216	jonathan.p.sisk@verizon.com
Verizon	John Reynolds Damage investigator	(443) 350-0718	john.n.reynolds@verizon.com
WGL	Ryan Reese Supervisor, Damage Prevention	(571) 512-0537	RReese@washgas.com

WGL	Don Jones Damage Prevention DC	(703) 408-0625	donjones@washgas.com
WSSC	David Wilkins BOD, Water/Sewer Rep	(301) 648-6953	david.wilkins@wsscwater.com
WSSC	Diane Kershaw Section Manager	(301) 704-0208	diane.kershaw@wsscwater.com

TEAMS ATTENDANCE

Childs Landscape	Becky Mellinger Sales Admin	(410) 974-0528	bmellinger@childslandscape.com
Columbia Gas	David Judy Damage Prevention	(301) 707-2389	djudy@nisource.com
Comcast	Marcus Rose Construction Project Manager	(703) 498-7435	marcus_rose2@comcast.com
DXI Construction	Christina Jacobs Ticket Processor	(443) 981-9851	cjacobs@dxiconstruction.com
Fort Myer Construction Corp	Sean Paris Damage Prevention Investigation	(202) 498-2598	sparis@fortmyer.com
Howard County Utilities	David Ball Supervisor	(410) 313-3052	dball@howardcountymd.gov
On The Mark Locators, LLC	Tyese Gillespie	(302) 577-0759	tgillespie@onthemarklocators.com
On The Mark Locators, LLC	Chad Gillespie		Cgillespie@onthemarklocators.com
Shentel Glo Fiber	Philip Dethlefs Damage Investigator	(850) 313-3256	Philip.Dethlefs@emp.shentel.com
Skyline Technology	Ryan Burns Supervisor	(410) 920-1361	rburns@skylinenet.net
Skyline Technology	Kevin McCadden Locator		kmccadden@skylinenet.net
SMECO	Lisa Hurley Locating Coordinator	(410) 535-9403	lisa.hurley@smeco.coop
UGI Utilities, Inc	Derek Rhodes Principal Pipeline Safety Leader	(484) 880-1567	drhodes@ugi.com
UGI Utilities, Inc	Garrett Reed Sr. Pipeline Safety Administrator	(717) 262-3999	greed@ugi.com
Utiliquest	Joel Troxell Supervisor	(703) 929-9709	joel.troxell@utiliquest.com
UtiliQuest	David Knox Director of Operations	(703) 675-9236	david.knox@utiliquest.com

WSSC	Satish Patel Section Manager	(301) 206-8559	satish.patel@wsscwater.com
WSSC	Lisa Malone Administrative Contract Manager	(301) 206-8465	lisa.malone@wsscwater.com