



MD/DC Damage Prevention Committee

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

Minutes of the meeting for July 22, 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 9:33 AM. There were thirty-nine (39) attendees onsite and eighteen (18) virtual attendees.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the June 24, 2025, minutes was made by Jack Ellison (WGL) and seconded by Mary Hill (Ferguson) The motion carried by approval.

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

OPEN DISCUSSION

Sean Paris (Ft. Myer) asked that stakeholder responsibilities for an emergency response be reviewed per Maryland's Title §12–121. Emergency tickets may be submitted 24/7/365.

- (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.
- (2) The person responsible for the excavation shall be on site or in communication with the owner–member, their contract locator, or their representative within 3 hours after the transmission of the ticket by the one–call system, or a mutually agreed response time.
- (3) The owner–member or its contract locator shall respond to the underground facilities information exchange system as soon as:
 - (i) the extent of work is marked; or
 - (ii) it is determined that no underground facilities are in the delineated area.

William Asare (Pepco) asked about the legitimacy of calling in an emergency locate at 1AM but the contractor not on site working until later in the day. According to Jim Barron (MD Authority)

this could be considered a violation of Maryland's Title 12 Dig Law and could be fineable up to \$5,000/per violation.

Mike Burns (Utiliquest) asked about screening for emergency tickets. Jenn Arroyo (Miss Utility) explained that when a user calls in or uses ITIC for ticketing, they are required to confirm that their reason for calling meets the definition of an emergency per Title §12-101 Law.

(k) "Emergency" means a sudden or unexpected occurrence involving a clear and imminent danger demanding immediate action to prevent or mitigate loss of, or injury to, life, health, property, or an essential public service.

Jenn followed up by stating that Miss Utility will not deny or question the intention of a person calling in an emergency.

Nelson Nazario (NZI Construction) shared concerns about multiple 48-delays from BGE. He states that he has to reach out directly when the delays are not updated. George Daffan (Utiliquest) to reach out directly after today's meeting.

David Wilkins (WSSC) thanked Pepco's Lance Thomas for his quick response, on a Saturday, to a recent 16" water main break.

April Bradley (BGE) asked about the process for addressing a contractor/excavator who may be working outside of the law. Kevin Woolbright (DPC Chair) stated the following:

- Reach out to the contractor directly to provide education based on Title 12 Law.
- Bring concern to Damage Prevention Committee for feedback.
- File an NPV with the Maryland Authority.

In addition, April asked who a user should reach out to if there are ticketing questions or concerns. Jenn responded by saying that a user can request the assistance of a Miss Utility Call Center Supervisor.

OLD BUSINESS

The September Damage Prevention Committee Meeting has been rescheduled to September 30.

NEW BUSINESS

Two names were accepted and nominated for the Maryland Authority Contract Locator Seat as Jimmy Jennings' tenure ends on September 30, 2025.

- Justin Lowthert - Utiliquest
- Jobani Lanares - Utiliquest

GUEST SPEAKER: Jim Verga | Eastcom

Jim introduced himself and shared his titled presentation: Principles and Techniques for Buried Utility Location. In an easy-to-understand way, he explained a couple of the difficulties locators face when locating. The first was distortion. According to a Google search, *distortion refers to the alteration or interference of a signal, typically electromagnetic, used to trace underground utilities like pipes and cables. This interference can lead to inaccurate readings, making it*

difficult to pinpoint the exact location of the utility. The second is bleed-off. Again, per a Google search, *bleed-off refers to the unwanted transfer of a transmitter's signal from the target utility line to nearby conductive objects, making it difficult to accurately locate the intended line. This can happen when a transmitter's signal "bleeds off" onto other nearby metallic conductors, creating multiple signal paths and potentially leading to inaccurate locates.* To minimize both effects, Jim explained the benefit of using low frequency and lower power from the transmitter. Attendees appreciated Jim's humor and use of props while educating everyone throughout his presentation.

MISS UTILITY CALL CENTER

- Virtual ITICnxt Training
 - Upcoming training: August 7 | September 4 | October 10
 - Please visit <http://missutility.tryitic.com/> for multiple ITICnxt resources and a link to all 2025 Virtual ITICnxt training dates and preregistration links.

- Dashboard Reporting: Jennifer Arroyo provided ticket volume data for the month of June 2025.
 - Western Shore MD compared to 2024
 - Inbound ticket volume: 65,925 a monthly increase of 5.164%
 - Year-to-date volume 385,388 a decrease of 3.143%
 - Outbound ticket volume: 320,684 monthly increase of 3.669%
 - Year-to-date volume: 1,877,363 a decrease of 3.954%
 - Washington, D.C. compared to 2024
 - Inbound ticket volume: 11,378 a monthly increase of 19.895%
 - Year-to-date volume 62,751 an increase of 1.633%
 - Outbound ticket volume: 84,360 monthly increase of 23.116%
 - Year-to-date volume: 433,770 a decrease of 8.901%

- Damage Reporting: Susan Sullivan provided YTD data through June 2025 of reported damages in MD/DC.
 - 583 utility damages (132 mains and 451 services)
 - 22.98% due to no call or valid ticket
 - 29.50% due to hitting a marked line
 - 35.51% due to incorrect locate marks
 - 12.01% due to other root causes

MARYLAND AUTHORITY | Michael Jewell, Executive Director

There was an Open Meeting and Closed Executive Session of the Authority on July 9, 2025.

- Meeting Minutes for June 11, 2025, and the financials for the 2nd Quarter 2025 were approved.
- There are currently fifty-two (52) NPV's that need to be investigated and reviewed by the Authority.
- We revised an old NPV that was reviewed in the June Meeting.
- We reviewed eight (8) NPV's and issued fines with three (3) Policy Letters required, three (3) Damage Prevention Trainings required, one (1) NPV tabled to the next meeting and one (1) sent back to the complainant for more information.

- Deputy Director, Susan Stroud, brought us up to date on the Case Management System, our Social Media presence, and proposed changes to our website.
- The PHMSA State Damage Prevention Grant request was submitted on June 20th. A responses is due sometime in September.
- Letters were sent out for two Formal Hearings to be held at September 10th meeting.
- The Authority still needs to come up with at least two (2) Public Members to submit to the Governor’s Appointment Office to replace James Dudley.
- Outgoing Executive Director, Jim Barron and Deputy Director, Susan Stroud, worked the MML Summer Conference and will be working the MACo Summer Conference the second week of August.
- We approved a Golf Cart Sponsorship for the 2025 Miss Utility Construction Angels Golf Tournament in October.

The next Open Meeting and Closed Executive Session of the Authority will be held on September 10, 2025.

Title-12 Re-Write:

No plans for the current legislative session at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- GCDPTC | Matt Ruddo | Chairman
 - When: Tuesday, October 21 - Friday, October 24
 - Where: Ashore Resort & Beach Club
 - Registration: Regular registration started on **July 21**.
 - Sponsors/Exhibitors: All 2024 sponsors and exhibitors have been contacted to renew their contracts for 2025. If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring this year, please contact Anna Trim at atrim@mghus.com. For exhibitor inquiries, please contact Nabeela Asif Tringali at nasiftringali@mghus.com.
 - Exclusive Sponsorship Packages Available:
 - Conference App Sponsor - New This Year!
 - Audiovisual Sponsor
 - Friday Featured Speaker Sponsor (John Brix is speaking)
 - If you’re interested in any of these exclusive sponsorships, please email atrim@mghus.com.
- Trade Show Updates.
 - In August, Miss Utility will participate in the following trade shows:
 - MACo Summer Conference - August 13-16, 2025
- 2025 Dig Smart Awards| Kevin Woolbright- Chair
 - The 2024-2025 Dig Smart Awards are now open
 - Deadline to submit: August 15, 2025
 - Winning companies will be recognized at the 2025 GCDPTC in October
- Annual Touch a Truck Day
 - For the 9th year, Miss Utility is partnering with the Chesapeake Baysox, to host Touch-A-Truck Day at Prince George’s Stadium on **Saturday, August 16**.

- Miss Utility would like to invite you to be a partner in this exciting event to support damage prevention awareness by bringing your organization’s machinery or vehicle for attendees to observe and explore.
- If you’d like to volunteer a vehicle or activity for this year’s Touch a Truck, please email Nabeela Asif Tringali at nasiftringali@mghus.com. Participating organizations will receive two volunteer T-shirts and six complimentary game tickets per vehicle

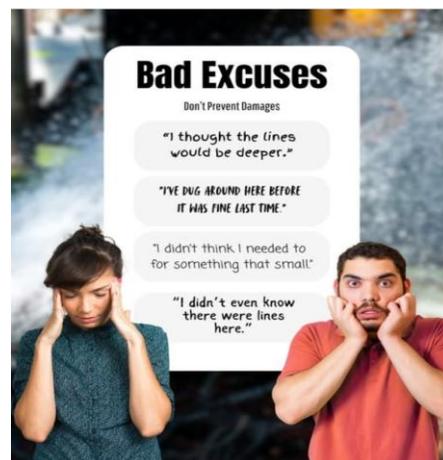
➤ Damage Prevention and Safety Committee | Kevin Woolbright | Chairman

- DPT Upcoming:
 - July 23: WSSC Laurel
 - July 24: Blue Water Baltimore
 - Aug 4: Frederick County
 - Aug 6: WSSC Anacostia Depot
 - Aug 8: Virtual DPT
- DPT Completed:
 - June 27: Howard County Recs/Parks
 - July 2: WSSC Lyttonsville
 - July 9: Charles County Public Works/Utilities
 - July 16: WSSC Gaithersburg

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.



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

- The Miss Utility/Construction Angels annual Golf Tournament will take place on Friday, October 3rd at the Hampshire Greens Golf Course in Ashton, Md. Details are forthcoming.
- The Crusher Run - Texas Quarry 5K took place on Sunday, June 1 at Martin Marietta's Texas Quarry in Cockeysville, Md. Construction Angels was awarded a check for \$20,000.
- Congratulations to this year's twelve (12) Scholarship winners! Each winner was awarded \$1,769.86.

There being no further business brought before the committee; the meeting adjourned at 11:12 AM.

Upcoming 2025 Hybrid MD/DC Damage Prevention & Safety Meetings

- August 26 | September 30 | No meeting in Oct.

ONSITE ATTENDANCE:

Anchor Construction	Edisson Bracho Dispatcher & Miss Utility Coordinator	(202) 322-9378	ebracho@anchorconst.com
BGE	April Bradley Supervisor Operations	(410) 470-6017	april.bradley@bge.com
BGE	Cory Holman Damage Prevention	(443) 791-5358	cory.holman@bge.com
BGE	Marc Haines BOD, Electric Rep	(443) 324-0371	marc.haines@bge.com
BGE	Michael Stein Damage Prevention Supervisor	(443) 962-9270	michael.stein@bge.com
Capital Paving of DC	Luis Hernandez-Soriano Office Engineer	410-974-0528	luis.soriano@capitolpaving.com
Columbia Gas	David Judy Damage Prevention	(301) 707-2389	djudy@nisource.com
Comcast	Stephen J Shelley BOD, Communications Rep	(443) 243-8904	stephen_shelley2@comcast.com
CW & Sons Infrastructure, Inc	Dusty Harbaugh President	(301) 674-5257	dharbaugh@cwsons.com
CW & Sons Infrastructure, Inc	Edwin Flores Safety Coordinator	(202) 924-9951	eflores@cwsons.com
Eastcom Associates	Jim Vega Area Sales Manager	(908) 803-0195	jverga@eastcomassoc.com

Ferguson Trenching	Mary Hill Safety Manager	(443) 510-9959	maryh@fergusontrenching.com
Former MDDPA MACo Representative	Paul Kwiatkowski Retired Howard County	(443) 315-7535	kwiatkowskipaul40@gmail.com
Gray & Son	Shelly Welling Safety Specialist	(410) 771-4311	swelling@graynson.com
Gray & Son	Lenny Corbin Safety Director	(410) 365-4156	lcorbin@graynson.com
MUFDPA	Jim Barron Executive Director	(410) 782-2102	jim.barron@mddpa.org
MUFDPA	Michael Jewell Executive Director		michael.jewell@mddpa.org
MUFDPA	Susan Stroud Deputy Director	(410) 782-2102	susan.stroud@mddpa.org
NPL	Terry Jackson Sr. EHSQ Safety Manager		tejackson@gonpl.com
OCCLS	Craig Rose DC Manager	(667) 274-8813	Cröse@occls.com
OCCLS	Zack Ward Area Manager	(443) 695-2244	zward@occls.com
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Susan SullivanDPC Secretary	(410) 782-2030	ssullivan@missutility.net
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Jennifer Arroyo General Manager	(410) 782- 2101	jennifer@occinc.com
PEPCO	Olitse Bedja Damage Investigator	(202) 255-2755	Olitse.Bedja@exeloncorp.com
PEPCO	Lance Thomas System Line Locator		lgthomas@pepco.com
PEPCO	William Okattah-Asare Damage Inspector	(240) 861-8644	William.Okattah- Asare@exeloncorp.com
PURIS	Wolfgang Yaruro Regional Safety Manager	(301) 755-4081	wolfgang.yaruro@puriscorp.com
SMECO	Lisa Hurley Locating Coordinator	(410) 535-9403	lisa.hurley@smeco.coop
Spiniello Companies	Ben Herrmann PM	(410) 320-4512	bherrmann@spinielloco.com
Spiniello Companies	Eddie Puckett		epuckett@spinielloco.com

Utiliquest	George Daffan DPC Vice Chairman	(301) 399-7975	george.daffan@utiliquest.com
Utiliquest	Jobani Linares Manager	(432) 466-3923	jobani.linares@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
WGL	Jack Ellison Sr. Specialist, Damage Prevention	(703) 966-9315	JohnEllison@washgas.com
WGL	Anna Rhodes Specialist, Damage Prevention	(703) 750-4588	Anna.Rhodes@washgas.com
WSSC	Diane Kershaw Section Manager	(301) 704-0208	diane.kershaw@wsscwater.com
WSSC	David Wilkins BOD, Water/Sewer Rep	(301) 648-6953	david.wilkins@wsscwater.com

TEAMS ATTENDANCE

Childs Landscape	Becky Mellinger Sales Admin	(410) 974-0528	bmellinger@childslandscape.com
Concrete General	Dan Dickerson Safety Director	(301) 252-6775	ddickerson@concretegeneral.com
DCI	Heather Fowkes Field Operations Assistant & QC Supervisor	(202) 913-6848	hfowkes@dcihq.com
DXI Construction	Christina Jacobs Ticket Processor	(443) 981-9851	cjacobs@dixieconst.com
Ferguson Trenching Company	Gloria Delgado Safety Admin Assistant	(410) 519-5700	gloriad@fergusontrenching.com
Fort Myer Construction Corp	Sean Paris Damage Prevention Investigation	(202) 498-2598	sparis@fortmyer.com
Garrett County Government	Megan Roth Risk Manager	(301) 334-8089	mroth@garrettcoumd.gov
Inframap Corp	Dimitri Payne SUE Project Manager	(240) 507-7595	dimitri.payne@inframap.net

MGH	Nabeela Asif Tringali PR & Marketing Account Executive	(410) 902-5006	nasiftringali@mghus.com
NZI Construction	Nelson Nazario VP	(240) 678-4260	nelson.a.nazario@gmail.com
One Call Concepts/ Miss Utility	Jeanne Martin Office Administrator/Coordinator		jeannemartin@occinc.com
Shentel Glo Fiber	Kerwin Ralls Project Manager Damage Prevention	(540) 335-0013	kerwin.ralls@emp.shentel.com
Skyline Technology	Ryan Burns Supervisor	(410) 920-1361	rburns@skylinenet.net
UtiliQuest	David Knox Director of Operations	(703) 675-9236	david.knox@utiliquest.com
UtiliQuest	Joel Troxell Manager of Operations	(703) 929-9709	joel.troxell@utiliquest.com
WGL	Greg Mason Sr. Damage Prevention Specialist	(571) 666-1493	gregory.mason@washgas.com
WSSC	Lisa Malone Administrative Contract Manager	(301) 206-8465	lmalone@wsscwater.com
WSSC	Satish Patel Section Manager	(301) 206-8559	spatel@wsscwater.com