

Carl Bulger presided.



Matthew Cornelius and Joe Sauer, BGE

(Photo courtesy of Dennis Edgington)

Matthew Cornelius is Manager of BGE's Smart Meters/Smart Grid Program

Joe Sauer is Manager of the \$2M Department of Energy Grant on behalf of the Maryland Public Service Commission.

BGE, the Nation's oldest public utility (approx. 200 years) is modernizing. Between now and late 2014, they will be replacing the present electric meters with so-called "Smart Meters" capable of two-way digital communication between the meter and the utility. Meter readers will no longer be necessary. Electrical usage information can be transmitted wirelessly at 900 MHz meter-to-meter to local access points which will transmit the information to the utility via Verizon Wireless. BGE will query the system

daily, bill you monthly as they do now, but also provide you with daily usage info. Usage data will be encrypted and not shared with or sold to third parties.

30 million Smart Meters have already been installed in the U.S. Europe has used them much longer than the U.S.

Besides cutting the costs of human meter readers, these meters will eliminate estimated bills, and eventually provide the homeowner with the ability to save money by shifting electricity usage to off-peak periods. They may also allow BGE to detect and respond to local outages more quickly. BGE will also be able to turn off and turn on electricity remotely when a customer moves or there is a fire or storm emergency.

New Members:

William Guthrie

Ron Floyd. Ron uses PhotoShop CS5