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## Meeting Minutes

**MEETING DATE:** Jan. 16, 2024

**TIME:** 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

**LOCATIONS:**

- **MICROSOFT TEAMS MEETING**
- **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF NEVADA**  
**1150 E. WILLIAM STREET, CARSON CITY, NV 89701**

**ATTENDEES**

**In Person (19)**

Cesar Castillo, Chair, RP Weddell  
Dawn Rivard, Secretary/Treasurer, PUCN  
Lynsay Demko, Director, Southwest Gas  
Kristen Garcia, Director, South  
Sal Caponigro, Director, Stake Center  
James Wingate, USA North 811  
Rusty McLaughlin, Director, Great Basin Gas  
Chance Walker, Southwest Gas  
Chris Foster, Mears Pipeline  
Carson Alexander, PUCN  
Daniel Adesina, PUCN  
Vern Hadley, NV Energy  
Colin Miyadi, USA North 811  
**Ryan White, Director, USA North 811**  
Gavin McIntosh, Stake Center  
Randy Charland, Utiliquest  
Michelle Koyle, Google Fiber  
Nancy Lopez, Southwest Gas  
Dani Prero, Nevada Landscape Assoc.

**Online/Phone (46)**

Boyd Duchene, Director, Clark County Water  
Reclamation District  
**Mario Fernandez, Director, Las Vegas Valley Water  
District**  
Mike Knight, Municipal Maintenance Equipment  
Mario, Affiliation Unknown  
Jennifer Fagan, Stake Center  
Kevin Cosgrove, Silver Lake Construction  
Kathie Harris, USIC

Robert McKechnie, Hole Hogz  
Felicia Tarin, Hole Hogz  
**Dennis Bott, Director, PUCN**  
Charles Atkinson, Truckee Meadows Water  
Authority  
Brendan Vargas, Tilson  
Joseph D'Ambrosio, NV Energy  
Brad Poulson, Kern River  
Harold Lefler, Western States  
Jeremy Crawford, Kern River  
Cliff Goodrich, Capriotti Construction  
Wayne Scott, Director, AT&T  
Neil Pascual, PUCN  
Jethro Dijkman, DigContrax  
Beryl Cox, Cox  
Terry Harpt, Southwest Gas  
Mike Marrero, USIC  
Gregory Noel, USIC  
Wade Vickers, BLVD  
Elizabeth Amaya, NV Energy  
Mike J. Millora, CenturyLink/Lumen  
Joshua Newland, ELM  
Josh Dotson, BLVD  
Scott Allen, Las Vegas Paving  
Gary Getchell, Zayo  
Ronald Lovely, Las Vegas Valley Water District  
Evelyn Hernandez, Southwest Gas  
Robert Baca, Southwest Gas  
Harley Hartman, ELM  
Amanda Hernandez, NPL Construction  
Kathy Bergman, Mammoth Underground  
Michael Ochs, Q&D Construction



312-783-9192, Affiliation Unknown  
Ryan White, Director, USA North 811  
Charles Folashade, Con Exon  
Orville Dotson, ELM

702-202-8319, Affiliation Unknown  
Tyler Byrd, Byrd Underground  
David L. Estes, CenturyLink/Lumen  
Thomas Fava Jr., Stake Center

**STANDING ITEMS:**

**1. Introductions (Cesar Castillo)**

Cesar Castillo started the meeting with an introduction.

**2. Adoption of the Agenda (Cesar Castillo)**

The agenda was adopted.

**• Underground Service Alert (USA North 811) Update (Ryan White)**

James Wingate, Executive Director: Nevada had over 200,000 tickets in 2023 for the 1<sup>st</sup> time since 2006. James will forward USA North's annual report to Dawn to distribute to everyone.  
Colin Miyadi: USA North has added a new hire to the marketing team. USA North now has more manpower to do more educational presentations.  
Ryan White: USA North will host an event/competition at the Clark County Shooting Range on April 6. They are looking for sponsors. 88 participants max. Cost is \$80/person and includes ammo, cart, and lunch. More info here: <https://fs26.formsite.com/6jJPTG/43cwarzjoe/index>.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**3. Short Notice Dig Tickets (Dennis Bott)**

There is nothing in Nevada law about short-notice tickets (SNT). There has been a 1700 increase in SNTs dig tickets from 2022-2023. Some excavators use SNTs when they're called in to subcontract an excavation on short notice. The subcontracted excavator is needed for the next day. According to law, each excavator needs their own dig ticket even though the site's already been marked at the request of the originally contracted excavator. Utility owners think of SNTs as emergency tickets. If they get notified of an SNT at 8 pm at night, the utility has to contact the excavator to see if they're digging at 8 pm. The uptick in SNTs seems to be due to soft dig contractors and the growth in usage of vac trucks. Cesar and Dennis would like to create a subcommittee with NUCA and AGC to discuss how to move forward with this issue.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**4. Nominations Committee (Jethro Djikman)**

Jethro announced new Board members. <https://nrcga.org/about/board-of-directors/>

**5. Excavator Appreciation Event/Silver Shovel Award (Cesar Castillo)**

The south is planning to host this event in April, National Safe Digging Month. The NRCGA also hopes to have a similar event in the north. The NRCGA used to have a Silver Shovel Award recipient in both the north and south, but due to the retirement of the northern NRCGA member who planned the event, it has disappeared for at least a few years. Lynsay Demko has been approved to provide a presentation on the Silver Shovel Award and how to achieve zero damages in a year. at the CGA's annual conference in Colorado Springs, April 14 -18. Scott Allen from Las Vegas Paving, the 2023 Silver Shovel Award winner, will be part of the presentation.



**NEW MEMBER(S):**

6. UtiliQuest (Randy Charland)  
Randy introduced himself and his company. <https://utiliquest.com/>
7. PUCN - Dennis Bott (Dennis Bott)  
Dennis explained his role as the PUCN's replacement for Craig Rogers.

**EVENT DATES:**

8. Upcoming NRCGA Committee Meetings (All Committee Chairs)
  - Celebration of Life for Craig Rogers will be held Jan. 18 in Las Vegas.
  - Chance Walker from Southwest Gas is the new committee chair for the NRCGA's excavator safety training committee.
  - Kristen Garcia is leading a taskforce to clean up/update the NRCGA's bylaws. A meeting is scheduled for Feb. 5 at 1 pm.
9. 2024 Industry Events (Lynsay Demko)
  - Dawn will add a calendar to the NRCGA website that will be specific to industry events. The intent is to have a place where the NRCGA, NUCA, AGC, etc., can list their events so we're not stepping on each other's events.
  - Kristen Garcia scheduled a Jan. 22 Teams/in-person meeting to discuss the master calendar.

**50 IN 5 INITIATIVE:**

10. The Plan to Reduce Damages to 50% in 5 Years (Lynsay Demko)  
90 ideas were submitted to help Nevada achieve a 50% reduction in damages in 5 years. A third of the ideas fit into the easy to implement category, 1/3 medium, and the last 1/3 were hard. The ideas fit into four categories:
  - Training
  - Regulation
  - Locating
  - Resources & Communication

Most of the 90 ideas can be implemented through NRCGA existing committees, but we may need a Regulatory Committee to keep up with new laws introduced/adopted during each legislative session.

More 50 in 5 info to come!

**Next Meeting:** March 19, 2024