

Underground Damage Prevention Safety Commission

633 17th Street, Suite 500 Denver, CO 80202-3610 303-318-8525 | ops.colorado.gov

Date: May 13, 2021

Location: Remote via Google Meet

Present:

| | Chris Kampmann | ✓ | Jim Moody | | Patricia McKinney-Clark | ✓ | Ted Jensen |
|---|-----------------|----------|---------------|---|-------------------------|---|------------|
| | Dale Kishbaugh | ✓ | Lori Warner | ✓ | Patrick Fitzgerald | | |
| ✓ | Dana Bijold | | Mark Frasier | | Ray Swedfeger | | |
| ✓ | Jeannette Jones | √ | Mark Williams | | Rob Ellis | | |

^{*} Indicates arrival after roll call . - indicates technical difficulties during roll call

Note:

The meeting was recorded and started at 10:01 am. These minutes represent a summary of this meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim document. Audio recordings of the meetings can be obtained by contacting cdle safetycommission@state.co.us.

MINUTES APPROVAL

A Motion was made to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2021, meeting: There was no discussion; a vote was taken to approve the minutes. It was approved unanimously.

TRAINING COURSE APPROVAL

Mentioned. No approval requests received as of yet.

MARKING BEST PRACTICE

- Took a few minutes to discuss some big picture aspects about getting the Marking Best Practice, specifically Scope and timeline. Pros and cons of options were discussed, including carving out more time to work on this as a group. There was support for adding meeting times, and setting a 6 month goal, not a requirement just a target. Motion made to work on entire document, with additional meetings being held, to work towards a 6 months (November) completion date. There was no further discussion, motion approved.
- APWA & CGA Comparison:
 - Todd Griffith: In comparing APWA & CGA, they are very similar. CGA seems to be the national marking standard and is a preference for Todd Grifith and Rob Ellis as they reviewed the existing material for content. It was noted that the APWA color code is referenced in the law & CGA already references APWA no conflict there. Does not recommend referencing both a they are slightly different (example: use of diamond)
 - Staff shared a comparison chart of APWA & CGA marking examples. The Commission discussed whether to reference 1, or both, or parts of each. Questions included what was occurring in the field, and what the impacted locators in the state do.
 - CO 811 recognizes APWA Color Code as the law, other than that they are not informed as to what occurs in the field & include both in training. The Commission asked if this question (about

- which marking standard they use), might be included in surveys to members CO 811 staff will follow up as to when the next survey is being sent out.
- A question about enforcement of the best practice: does this best practice become a document that tells companies how to perform locates - the law uses the word 'standard' - question about whether compliance is enforceable.
 - Initial AG opinion is that this document is different from other best practices; additional follow up required. In reviewing the Statute, the law does call out marking standards.
 - OPS staff noted that in other safety programs, policies are enforceable, if policies are noted in Regulations (may require rules to be reopened).
 - Suggestion to not require APWA or CGA specifically, initially, and make it a recommendation as the best practice becomes implemented and trained. The idea of giving people time to learn (whatever chosen).
- Reviewed CGA Appendix & a comment was added to the applicable section of the best practice to determine if the CGA Appendix might be used.
- Reviewed Appendix B (Addendum) document, shared by Todd Grifith & Rob Ellis. Document is a drafted appendix for CGA & APWA
 - 1.a. "Whenever possible, place an arrow as the last mark should the utility continue beyond the described dig area" discussed by Commissioners. Perhaps use and add that "the arrow is an indicator that the facility continues, however the location and direction is unknown since not located beyond this point" This is information for planning purposes if you are near the edge of the dig area, and you can not dig outside of your described or white lined area. This is for information only.
 - 10. [new; no # 10 in CGA] "Marking errors shall be corrected by the locator/operator and communicated to the excavator as soon as possible after the discovery..." Currently this language doesn't exist in CGA, the Commission might use this language in it's best practice.
 - 11. "When known abandoned facilities exist and are not locatable, facility owner shall indicate by using APWA color code with a circled "A"" The intent of this language was included in the draft best practice, in the section discussing 'Abandoned facility.'
- In the discussion about abandoned facilities, the discussion of depth in general & related to abandoned facility - was had. Challenges on the behalf of both excavators and facility owners was discussed when this is or isn't provided.
- Action item: Follow up with AG on enforceability of the Marking Best Practice, and then determine which standard to select & how to proceed
- Action item: to perform a poll to determine what is used CO 811 will follow up about the survey timeline, and will also look at a survey specifically to support the SC in this question
- Action item: doodle poll to find additional times for the Best Practice group to meet will be sent for the next several months, Agenda to be drafted by Jeanette for the additional meetings.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Members discussed a meeting summary to provide at the full Safety Commission meeting (April 8, 2021).
- Members discussed potential topics for the next Best Practices meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2021, however an additional meeting may be added prior.

Meeting adjourned at 11:47 am.