

Minnesota Regional CGA

Meeting Minutes 4/15/15

1. Introductions/Opening Comments – **Chuck Jensen**
 - a. Overview of MN CGA –Who we are and what we do
 - b. An invitation to participate

2. National CGA update – **Chris Thome**
 - a. National Committee updates – **National Comm Members**

Youth Engagement Pilot Program:

Xcel Energy, CenterPoint, and GSOC are working on a pilot program to provide educational outreach through youth sports engagement. For a relatively small sponsorship fee we will have the 811 logo printed on all the jerseys for the entire league, from t-ball up to junior high. We will also have the opportunity at the year-end jamboree to educate the kids, siblings, and their families, about the importance and meaning of the marks, why not to mess with paint and flags, and to always make sure their parents call before digging.

Documentation of the pilot will include a pre-and post-test (prepared by by a representative of the School and Pipeline safety partnership) of awareness, and a presentation to the national CGA of our findings and lessons learned.

We are actively seeking one more partner, for \$500 they could use the data for their supplemental outreach.

3. Updates from Subcommittees:
 - a. Ag Committee – **Claude Anderson**

Committee members have utilized the many event and meeting opportunities available at this time of year to inform farmers and landowners of damage prevention issues by participating as speakers as well as providing and staffing informational booths.

Our Ag Awareness flyer is posted on the MNCGA website and has been widely available and favorably received at various damage prevention meetings.

Damage Prevention Safety Bulletins concerning Farming Road Right-Of-Way and Agricultural Soil Sampling have been completed and are posted on the website.

The committee is considering a number of interesting new initiatives for the coming year. If you are interested in enhancing safety for rural excavators and farmers, please consider joining our committee.

b. Technology – **Jeff Law**

No update other than got the majority of action items done for the website.

c. DP Meetings / Education – Alicia Berger for **Betty Jo Kiesow**

No update

d. Best Practices – **Jeff Murray & Mike Mendiola**

There is a growing concern regarding locate tickets being submitted as 'Depth Profiling'. MNOPS has been aware of this issue since last fall but several of the facility operators having been seeing increased activity with these tickets. The depth profiling entails a meet ticket where typically a large area is described with vague marking instructions. Some of these locations are public park areas, entire commercial lots, and the MN Zoo for example. The group submitting these tickets expects to have all the facilities located in these areas. Once the locates are established on site, the group uses their depth profiling equipment to acquire the x/y/z information of all the underground facilities. The facility owners are concerned for several reasons:

- The depth profiling tickets impact the facility owners' locating resources due to unnecessary time being spent locating areas that don't need to be located
- Acquiring the facility owners' information for the possibility of selling the information to 3rd parties
- Accuracy of the depth profiling work
- Potential profit with having the locate work done for them

MNOPS is concerned with:

- Insufficient marking instructions
- No white marking
- Potential misuse of the one call center
- Submitting locate tickets with questionable intent to excavate (meet tickets fall under excavation-type tickets)

MNOPS recently attended an onsite meet regarding depth profiling submitted by ULS. Also in attendance were Xcel Energy, Dakota Electric, Magellan, and Koch Pipeline. Based upon this meeting, MNOPS will arrange an industry meeting which will include ULS to address the depth profiling concern.

e. Marketing – **Alicia Berger**

Looks like good response from invitation to join message at Damage Prevention meetings. 30+ new members.

f. Special Projects Committee

i. 811 Run– **Whitney Price**

- Registration is open & can be found on the 811 Run/Walk Facebook page
- Sponsorship flyer will be sent out soon – need sponsors to help cover costs
- Need people to help promote event to attendees – will provide web buttons, etc. if needed
- Run date is 8.15.15 @ Lake Calhoun – run starts at 8:11am
- Safety fair & prizes following the run
- Meeting invites for those who want to help will be sent out soon
- No beer tent or 811 bike – bike is booked and Lake Calhoun more strict this year regarding beer tent

ii. Day of the Dozers – **Whitney Price**

- Date is October 3rd, 2015 (9am-4pm)
- Need volunteers & ideas for safety booths during the event
- Help from MNCGA members to promote the event as it gets closer

iii. Grand Old Day Parade – **Ben Wallace**

Described opportunity to participate in the Grand Old Day Parade – might be a good 811 outreach event. Looking into costs, insurance, and needed support.

4. Reports from the Field / Relevant issues – **Group**

a. Further discussion of using locate system to do depth profiling, and its impact on resources.

Open Items / Action items needing attention - **Group**

~~ACTION ITEM: Jeff Law to review/complete the action items from September.~~

~~ACTION ITEM:: **Committee leaders:** Need more data/content to add to your pages, please submit.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Add an “Excavator Training” link under the Resources tab.~~

ACTION ITEM: Color font – change the color to contrast better (Jeff Law)

~~ACTION ITEM: Reverse order the event calendar or make the link the same as the top link for 2015 DPM’s.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Add/Finish Special Projects to power point.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: “What Doesn’t Get Marked”—highlighting multiple ways, positive response that not everything gets marked. Utilize statute language as appropriate and for consistency. ACTION ITEM:~~

~~Check on software to make power point into You Tube.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Check with DP Coordinators to gain buy in; ask for 10–15 minutes and get an okey dokey.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Add “This information is also available at mnega.org” to power point.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Need to get DP Organizers/Coordinators to join MNCGA.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: **Betty Jo** will clean up power point and send to Alicia.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: GSOC to use MN CGA as a sounding board.~~

~~Discussion was regarding new installations and the lag time between install and activation—what do operators do once it’s in? Do you put locator flags in even though it has been activated yet?~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Suggestion was made to highlight a particular topic to attract attendees~~

ACTION ITEM: Create a monthly “Best Practice” to promote on the website (Mike Medolia)

~~ACTION ITEM: Research into creating a take-away, postcard, sticky calendar—get sponsorships to fund.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Create a template for hand out, make it available for DP’s to customize. Put a WHIFM on it, communication information and website. **Alicia**~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Presentation—add the number of folks reached through activities (Day of the Dozer, State Fair, etc.).~~

~~ACTION ITEM: MNOPS Conference—Does CGA want to do an update? April 14-16~~

~~ACTION ITEM: **Stephanie** to connect with Alicia on other venues to promote MN CGA.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Get promo and registration ready by March for an email push.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Create postcards to share at industry meetings/events. ACTION ITEM: **Betty Jo, Estelle, Mike:** J. Law needs DP meeting presentations to add to website.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: **Estelle** to send the body of the DP Meeting email to DP Coordinators to share with their audiences and to Stephanie for promotion within MUCA’s audience.~~

ACTION ITEM: Stephanie to publish DP Meetings in MUCA Directory

~~ACTION ITEM: **Ben** to send updated roster of DP Meeting listing MN CGA Reps covering.~~

~~ACTION ITEM: **Survey**—who sends the survey and does anything need to be changed?~~

~~ACTION ITEM: Create postcards to share at industry meetings/events.~~