

WASCO COUNTY UTILITIES COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2014

8:00 a.m. @ Shari's Restaurant

Attendance:

Arthur Smith	Wasco County Public Works
Marty Matherly	Wasco County Public Works
Dale McCabe	City of The Dalles Public Works
Brenda Huskey	City of The Dalles Public Works
Ed Ortega	Northern Wasco County PUD
Scott Peters	ODOT
Greg Jensen	Crestline Construction
Jim Bailey	Wasco Electric Co-op
Yogi Rattay	NW Natural
Troy Klein	NW Natural
Herb Watts	North State Telephone/Fastercom

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. by President, Ed Ortega.

Minutes:

Minutes of the December 10th, 2013 meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report:

Our current checking account balance after last month's training expenses is \$2,338.60. State dues of \$150 will be sent in as soon as Arthur receives the invoice.

Damage Report:

There was one damage for December reported by Northern Wasco County PUD. For the year 2013 there were 15 "reported" damages for Wasco County. Century Link does not report damages but we would like to encourage them to do so.

Old Business:

Each utility gave their feedback on the utility operator/owner training at the Discovery Center on December 18th. General consensus...it was very worthwhile, we had a good turnout and is something we need to look at having every two or three years. Arthur said we were billed for 62 people with the total cost being \$1,139.25, including the gratuity. Thanks to the State Council for giving us the additional \$1,000 which helped provide this training!

New Business:

Having a Contractor's Night on April 2nd at Spooky's was discussed. Arthur will check with Spooky's to see if their room is available. Yogi volunteered himself and John to buy the door prizes again. Arthur felt it was important to have a presenter/video that would drive home the importance of calling in/maintaining a locate. Greg recommended a video he saw several years ago involving a utility line that was hit by a contractor at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago. He said this video involved every type of utility.

Dale thought it would be appropriate if each utility owner/operator introduced himself and fielded any questions the audience might have. Wallet cards for the contractors would be nice too with the basic emergency numbers and utility numbers they need to call.

We would like to invite the Locate, Inc. locator and Troy suggested we talk to Abdullah Hashash at the Portland Office. Troy said he would talk to him at their next meeting in a few days.

Arthur said we could reach out to the orchardists through the local growers association and Mike from The Dalles Irrigation District will be able to help. He will e-mail us his most current contractor list and he'd like everyone to look it over for changes/updates.

Herb suggested we put up some of the larger 811 signs the State provides but the question is where to put one without a required R-O-W permit. Herb made a motion we request 6 signs and Troy seconded the motion. Ed will request the signs.

The council pursued having a banner made to hang over 2nd Street when there is an empty calendar slot available. Brenda had a quote last July of \$1,130 for a 4' x 18' banner from Rage Graphics so she checked with them and Chad said that price was still valid. We will not use time slots that have been repeatedly used by other organizations for years. The cost to hang a banner is \$25 and it can be hung for a two week period. Troy made a motion and Herb seconded that the council pursue having a banner made contingent upon state funding which Ed will request.

Officer pictures will be taken at the February meeting so we can send them to the OUNC.

Dale suggested we make it a requirement that the council President attend the May meeting in Sun River and if he's not able, then the Vice President...and on down the officer list. Everyone was OK with his suggestion.

Round Table:

Dale McCabe – City of The Dalles Public Works

- ❖ NW Kodiak is finishing their punch list for the completed water project on Webber Street.
- ❖ Bid opening tomorrow for another slipline project at various locations around the City.
- ❖ Crestline Construction has the contract for the new surge tank at Sorosis. Obtaining the tank has pushed the project out a ways.
- ❖ Working with The Dalles Irrigation District and the Bureau of Reclamation to construct a pond off Skyline Road that will be used as a detention pond for Mark's Well.
- ❖ At the last planning commission meeting the new pool was approved and the project is moving forward.
- ❖ The City is doing the design for the Transit Center that will be located at Chenoweth Loop and W 7th Streets and for W 7th between Chenowith Loop and Hostetler that will be an LID. Design will be done this spring or early summer.
- ❖ Ground breaking for the Chenoweth Business Park is January 31st. Crestline Construction is the contractor and construction will begin the 1st of February. This is a big project with new water, sewer, storm, all franchise utilities and pressure mains from the business park to Second Street.

Scott Peters - ODOT

- ❖ Winter maintenance.
- ❖ Guardrail project starting up in The Dalles.

Yogi Rattay – NW Natural Gas

- ❖ Normal operations.

Jim Bailey

- ❖ Miscellaneous services throughout their territory and system maintenance.
- ❖ In the last phases of the Pine Hollow substation.

Herb Watts – North State Telephone/Fastercom

- ❖ Responding to locates.
- ❖ Removing abandoned facilities, poles and drops.

Arthur Smith – Wasco County Public Works

- ❖ Winter maintenance, brushing.
- ❖ On January 27th Coral Construction will begin installing guardrails on Chenowith Road, Chenowith Creek Road and Sevenmile Road. Project will take about two weeks. Funds for this project came from the HR 3 Program that funds safety improvements.

Ed Ortega – Northern Wasco County PUD

- ❖ Pole inspections and general maintenance.
- ❖ Upgrading the electrical service at Wasco County Public Works.
- ❖ Waiting on the Fairfield Inn project.
- ❖ Pole replacements, underground conduit crossing and maintenance at 11th/Thompson.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m. Thanks to everyone who attended!

Remember next month's meeting: February 18th.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Huskey, Secretary