

ARIZONA UTILITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 2, 2015

The Arizona Utility Coordinating Committee serves its members by promoting professional excellence and public awareness through education, advocacy and the exchange of knowledge.

PRESENT

Daniel Constance	CenturyLink	Dan Vance	SW Gas
Briana Velez	Phoenix	David Cross	MCDOT
Connie Peretz	AZUCA	Ed Padron	MCDOT
Dan Nissen	Peoria	Gary Parr	Valley Metro
Jeremy Elser	SWGAS	Jami Erickson	Phoenix
Kelly Roy	MCDOT	Jon Nelson	MCDOT
Tom Wilhite	Tempe	Kim Noetzel	Arizona 811
Vicki Bever	ADOT	Matthew Frost	Mesa
Al Field	Al Field & Assoc.	Will Fielder	SW Gas
Bob Trzepowski	SRP		

Meeting Called to Order/Attendance

- ✓ Dan Nissen, Vice Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:38 am.
- ✓ Introductions/Attendance sheet circulated. Quorum was met.

Previous Meeting Minutes

- ✓ April 7, 2015 meeting minutes reviewed. No recommended changes.

Safety Minute

- ✓ Reminder to watch for children or pets left in hot cars during high temperature summer months.

Guest Speaker, Vicki Bever, ADOT

Buy America - There is still a lot of confusion for Buy America on contracts. If you have a contract with a public agency and are going to be reimbursed for relocation, you must meet the requirements of "Buy America". It seems most companies are managing the "Buy America" requirements through their procurement offices. It also appears that this is becoming normal for our agreements. If you are having issues, please call. The "Buy America" certificates can come with the billing or can come with the final "cost run summary". They are required because they are part of the audit process.

Davis-Bacon – This is the prevailing wage law. It does not apply to a utility contract as the Department of Labor determined, in essence: "...a public utility, in furnishing its own materials and equipment, is in effect extending its utility system, the work performed is not subject to the aforementioned laws." The aforementioned laws are the Davis Bacon laws. This rule also applies for the service connects where we secure the meter under force account.

Potholes - require an environmental clearance.

Please note these requirements are typical to projects using federal aid and any project under ADOT is federal aid.

New Abandonment guideline – Copy is attached. Please note abandonment does not mean walk away. It simply allows the utility to take the line "out of service" in a safe and permitted fashion. The permit process will determine what "out of service" looks like (grouting, imploding, other use are all determined with the utility at that time. The utility will continue to own, map and mark the abandoned facility. If the abandoned facility is in conflict with construction the utility must bear the cost for removal or relocation if prior rights do not exist.

Project Updates

ADOT-South Mountain Freeway-Three contractors have been short listed and are moving forward to submit proposals which are due Oct-Nov. One will be selected. A series of starts will be set up. Project dirt being moved by Q1, 2016.

Phoenix- Hunter Const. will extend Chandler connection between 19th & 27th Avenues, with the condition to maintain and improve hiking trails.

Valley Metro- Central Mesa extension due to open mid to late August. Northwest extension to open Q1 2016.

Peoria- Currently going through reorganization. New chart will be available at next meeting.

Tempe- Design phase- Elliot from east of Kyrene to College.

Staffing Updates

MCDOT- Denise Brewer- Head of Construction Management/Permitting/Inspections. Tom Russell retired.

Other Business

John Hauskins- AZ APWA President – Reviewed events and opportunities for upcoming Congress 8/30 – 9/2 with an expected attendance of over 6,000 from twenty six different countries. Requested volunteer participation from local chapter members. Members that volunteer for a half day will be able to attend a half day at no cost. Invited AUCC committee members to attend the monthly meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the Phoenix Country Club.

Duct Banks-Allowed to be installed for future use. If permits are not issued after installation, there is no way to track who currently owns. It is up to the municipalities to require permits. All municipalities have varying policies and guidelines.

Cell Sites- If a private cell site is adjacent to the ROW, the connection point has to go onto their site. Often there is a gap between the meet me vault and location for cell provider. Meet me vaults need to be installed inside cell site.

Utility Non-responsiveness- Concerns were addressed over CATV provider that is not responding to requests for marks on arterials streets and not showing up for quarterly meetings. Reminds providers that best practice is to respond to those meeting requests.

SRP Portal- Users are reporting experiencing some issues using new portal.

Private Water Companies- Continued reports that they are not marking their facilities.

Cell Sites- New companies set up sites for quick profit but do not maintain.

Arizona 811- Metro Phoenix Damage Prevention & Safety Seminars are scheduled for the last week of July.

Next Meeting: August 4, 2015, Arizona 811, 9:30 am