

Michigan Damage Prevention Board
MINUTES
June 22, 2017
9:00 AM, MITA Offices, Okemos, MI

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 AM. In attendance was Laura Arnold, MISS DIG 811; Dirk Dunham, Consumers Energy; Dave Chislea, MPSC; Jeff Quirante, MPSC; Rob Coppersmith, MITA; Melissa Ramieres Attinoto, MISS DIG 811; John Hendershot, DIG-IT Inc; Chris Jensen, MECA; Brian Saintonge, DTE; Jim Ault, MEGA; Briant Thomas, AT&T; Bethany Brooks, DTE. On the phone was Danielle Polsgrove, DTE and Brice Campbell, MISS DIG 811.

Approval of Agenda

No Changes

Approval of the May 25, 2017 Minutes

Postpone to August Meeting

Update of List

No Changes to record

MPSC Damage Reporting and Complaints

Five complaints received since last meeting, one was not PA174 related and one was over the 270 day cut off. Three are under investigation; no dig notice, one driveway install and one road work. MPSC has their shallow facilities Best Practice to present.

Any "Board Review" Incidents or Issues

MISS DIG Update

Update on Overhead Assistance/Clearance

Nothing to report.

Abandon Facilities

MISS DIG presented to the Board an option to allow members to establish a Member Code for Abandon Facilities with an automated Positive Response. Dirk spoke to the benefits when the FOO is pulling out of an area where the contractor would have no way to know who use to be in the area; he noted that if the FOO has active facilities in the grid contractors would suspect they are the owner of the abandon facility. Additional information online with contact information for the FOO who abandon the line. Dirk suggested having the BP committee look at including the abandon code.

Damage Prevention/Education

MISS DIG 811 focusing efforts on three DPA areas to re-launch the in-person meetings. MITA volunteered to send DPA Meeting dates to members.

MDPB Best Practices

Updates on Development

Hand exposure requirements

Dirk reviewed the best practice and discussion recorded. Discussion on means to document, and use of non-pneumatic hand tools. Discussion on milling in the best practice. Milling tabled for shallow facility discussion. Will be on agenda for vote at the next meeting.

Removal of flags upon completion of work

Melissa reported MISS DIG 811 near ticket tool is available and we have incorporated the near ticket tool in this best practice. Contractor is encouraged to check, through RTE, if other dig notices are in the area before removing markings. Discussion on contractors' concern for removing flags. Will be on agenda for vote at the next meeting.

Shallow facilities

MPSC presented on the shallow facilities Best Practice with a case study from a damaged gas line in Troy. MPSC does not see milling as an exempt practice. MPSC proposes defining shallow facilities as buried less than 18 inches. The MPSC defines milling passed on the MDOT Road Terms and Definition. When boring service lines under asphalt the bore can install in the asphalt. Rob asked when milling should be considered excavation? Routine maintenance vs reconstructive milling. MPSC is proposing Facility Owners report shallow facilities. Rob stated that he would vote no on this best practice as it is written. John questioned when we would begin using a GPS coordinates and depths to share with contractors. Dirk Dunham noted the GUIDE Program is working on this.

Other Pending

Mapping

Nothing to report.

Next Committee Meeting

No meeting scheduled. Dirk will schedule.

CGA Update

Nothing to report.

New Business Roundtable

8/11 Events

DTE White Caps Game 8/10, MISS DIG training at labor training centers, GSS press release

Large project staking

Ian noted on the job site the project is so large the Locator is not able to close the ticket. They can not complete the scope of the ticket and have to keep remarking for destroyed marks. Contractors are not contacting for re-staking because the Locator does not leave the job site. Rob suggested a funnel for the re-staking requests to go through the general contractor. In the MISS DIG system, the contractor can place a re-stake after 72 hours. Bruce suggested offset marking best practice be considered. We need to revisit the Joint Project Locator Best Practice. How do we address added expense of JPL? Add to MDOT agreement as a bid item.

Jim Ault stated that for the energy providers conference in July they added civic responsibility for asset management; Bruce will part of the panel as will a representative from DTE. Jim is looking for a third panelist. Rob offered Lance from MITA. Jim will follow-up with Rob.

Dave reported on informal complaints against Bloodhound. Ian is unsure how Bloodhound is getting the information but he will look into it with USIC. Ian will provide follow at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

Next meeting in August

Adjourn

Chris Jensen made a motion to adjourn at 10:49. Briant Thomas supported. Motion passed.