

## **Common Ground of Nebraska (CGN)**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**November 12, 2008**

**1:00- 3:00 pm**

*Note: Task groups – meet prior to the regular meeting from Noon – 1:00 pm.  
The Locator Training Task Group will be meeting at this time. All other task group leaders will determine the need for a meeting.*

### **Hosted by:**

**Platte Pipeline and Kinder Morgan Companies**

### **Meeting Location:**

**Phelps County Extension Building at the Holdrege Fairgrounds**

**Everyone is encouraged to bring a guest!**



**Know what's below.  
Call before you dig.**

### **Agenda**

***IN ATTENDANCE: Val Snyder, Kinder Morgan, John Slater, Kinder Morgan, Susan Griess – Digger's Hotline, Rod Jobman – Sudbeck Construction, Dan Maschka – Northern Natural Gas, Lance Loschen – City of Lincoln, Todd Carsons – City of Omaha, Jeremiah Johnson – Valley Irrigation, Marvin Brummer – SourceGas, Phil Bentz – Glenwood Telephone, Randy Lieser – Grand Island Utilities, Lanna Machmueller – SourceGas, Jerry Jacobsen – Platte Pipeline***

- 1. Welcome, introductions and sign up sheet**
- 2. Safety and housekeeping – fire exits, evacuations, health concerns, restrooms, etc**

3. **General meeting etiquette reminders** - set your phones to vibrate, take calls outside of this meeting room, one conversation at a time, etc.
4. **Special instructions** – Discuss today’s events and timing
5. **Industry Highlight:**
  - a. Val Snyder / Kinder Morgan  
*Val Snyder with Kinder Morgan and Jerry Jacobson with Platte Pipeline gave a presentation regarding their respective State and Nationwide facilities.*
  - b. Volunteer for next meeting –  
*Lance Loschen volunteered to host the next CGN meeting at Lincoln Wastewater Systems in Lincoln – Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>.. Looking for a volunteer to present the industry highlight at this meeting. Please contact Dan or Susan if you are interested in volunteering.*
6. **Old Business:**
  - a. Comments / Corrections from the previous minutes: *No corrections to previous minutes*
  - b. Membership related news:
    - i. New members and pledge cards: Tom Anderson – Need to update members currently listed on the web. Discuss pledge cards via the web. *Dan will contact Tom Anderson to see his status of Membership Director for the CGN. May need to add the position to the Election process at next meeting.*
  - c. Website issues – Bill Uitts (point person), Rod Jobman, Susan Griess and Tim Proksel. View at: [www.Nebraska-cga.com](http://www.Nebraska-cga.com)
    - i. Proposed changes: Link to Best Practices 5.0, remove Blog and add Homeowner Flyer, add link to CGA Dirt Report.  
*Rod Jobman provided an update to the Website. He has reviewed all items that need updated or added/removed and will submit those to Bill Uitt. Bill will work with John Schell at Celeratis to ensure updates are made. Will add all press releases and a segment for the Locator Training courses.*
  - d. Task Groups:
    - i. **Locate/Training Standardization** – Lance Loschen, Susan Griess, Bill Uitts, Shon Olson, Gary Brakhahn, Phil Bentz, Dan Willets, and Randy Leiser.  
*Susan provided update regarding recent locator training workshop in Grand Island. Good turnout and good feedback. Plans are to secure a Sidney, NE and Omaha, NE location for early/mid March 2009. Jerry Jacobsen will be joining the task group. Possible follow-up with past attendees to determine what changes/improvements could be made. Rod Jobman suggested offering a higher level of Course for those that requested it. Discussion regarding standardization vs. certification.*
    - ii. **Better Communication** - Paul Anderson, Lanna Machmuller, Rod Jobman, Doug Douglas, Marvin Brummer, Larry Blackstone. *Val Snyder will be joining this task group.*

iii. **White Lining** - Randy Leiser, Gary Brakhahn. *Much discussion regarding how to communicate White Lining. It was suggested to start at the beginning and ensure that all people understood what the term “White Lining” meant. Provide a clearer definition of the act itself...i.e.”Marking the proposed dig site with white paint or flags”. Under consideration to have the CSR’s at One Call ask the additional question: “Will the proposed dig-site be marked or identified with white markings?”*

e. State-wide disaster plan: Update needed?  
*This item will be removed from future agendas until further needed discussion is warranted.*

## 7. New Business:

a. One-call board meeting update.

*Dan Maschka provided an update of the One Call Board of Directors Meeting held November 7. Topics included open meeting structure, outreach and promotional initiative underway.*

b. Line Locate training in Grand Island. – *Please reference above Task Group notes*

c. CGN elections: Potential open positions – Co-Chair, Treasurer, and Program/Meeting Director.

*Nominations for the following positions will be accepted until December 31, 2008: Co-Chair, Treasurer, Membership Director and Program/Meeting Director.*

*Nominations need to be sent to Dan Maschka at [dan.maschka@nngco.com](mailto:dan.maschka@nngco.com). Only those CGN members that have completed and handed in a Membership Pledge form will be allowed to nominate and vote. Voting will take place at the next CGN meeting in January. Only those present may vote.*

d. *Virtual DIRT. – Digger’s has added a Virtual DIRT link on the Digger’s website at [www.ne-diggers.com](http://www.ne-diggers.com). This may be used by anyone to enter their facility damage information, Contractors and Excavators included. For further information on how to register or use the system, please contact Susan Griess at [susan.griess@cusinc.com](mailto:susan.griess@cusinc.com) or 402-334-3424*

e. Proposal for CGN Treasury.

*Northern Natural Gas has offered to financially support the CGN organization.*

*Future sponsorship levels for other companies wishing to contribute were discussed.*

*Rod Jobman made the motion to “Establish a Voluntary Public Awareness Fee.”*

*Motion was seconded by Jerry Jacobsen and was approved by a unanimous vote.*

*Treasurer, Lance Loschen will investigate creating a non-profit bank account for sponsorship fees.*

## 8. Open discussion

a. *Discussed the 1,000,000 line locate ticket for Magellan pipeline.*

## 9. Determine the next meeting date, time and location -

Next meeting: Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.

Lincoln Wastewater Systems, 2400 Theresa Street. Lincoln, NE 68521.

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

## Identified Issues

On October 18, 2006 the first “meeting of interest” was held to determine if Nebraska should form a regional CGA partnership. Over the course of the next few meetings, each stakeholder was asked to identify a damage prevention related issue. The list below was gathered and will continually be adjusted as needs dictate.

At the September 20, 2007 meeting the top three items were chosen and are listed in **bold** below. The remainder of the list has not been prioritized:

- 1. Better communication between utility owner and contractor**
- 2. Damage prevention - reducing or eliminating damages**
- 3. Training standardization**
4. Excavator and Locator: Standardization of markings and more involvement with Excavators
5. White Lining
6. Surveying Industry – requests go unmarked.
7. Standardized process for At Faults and Responsibility
8. Need for Information Exchange among all Stakeholders
9. Locate areas more precise and the use of GPS/GIS/Mapping Technologies
10. Private Utilities vs. Utility Owned
11. Include mid/western Nebraska in all future initiatives
12. Positive Response
13. Public Awareness/Homeowner
14. Industry turnover/more training
15. Standard Depth Enforcement
16. Private Lines