

Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety
Meeting Minutes
Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW, Olympia, WA 98504
August 28, 2018

Members present:

Greg Baruso, Chair
Rebecca Sexton-Kelly, Vice-chair
Jerome Delvin
Ron Bowen
Nick Peelo
Randy Tarter
Dave Taylor
Karen Cash
Patrick Davis
Janet Alderton

Members absent:**Other attendees:**

Sean Mayo, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Joe Subsits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Debbie Becker, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Denise Witchey, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Steve Davidson, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Jason Lewis, UTC Policy Planning & Research
Ann Rendahl, UTC Commissioner
Jay Balasbas, UTC Commissioner
Scott Zimmerman, Dept. of Ecology
Terry Lohnes, Williams-Northwest Pipeline

Agenda Items:

1) **Welcome, Meeting Protocols, Introduction and Adoption of March 8 and May 8, 2018 Minutes**

The meeting was brought to order by Greg Baruso who welcomed all attendees. In a unanimous vote, the Committee adopted the March 8 and May 8 meeting minutes as written.

2) **Pipeline Safety in Washington State Report – Recommendations for CCOPS**

Greg Baruso reviewed the seven recommendations for CCOPS made in the Pipeline Safety Report. *(This document is posted on the CCOPS website.)*

CCOPS-1: CCOPS should strive to be more proactive, and review and provide comment on pipeline safety issues the committee has the ability to successfully weigh in on.

- Greg Baruso: Made a recommendation for the Committee Members to review the rulemaking notices sent out by DOT/PHMSA and review issues that are presented in their own counties.
- Ron Bowen: Offered to take on the role of reviewing rulemakings and writing letters.
- Sean Mayo: The Pipeline Safety Program will keep the Committee updated on PHMSA rulemakings.
- Jason Lewis: Offered Policy Planning and Research help with Legislative issues.
- Denise Witchey: Will forward PHMSA's daily news email to Committee Members.

CCOPS-2: CCOPS should review the structural issues associated with the committee (meeting schedule, membership expertise and makeup, membership recruitment, term limits, etc.) and make necessary recommendations to address identified issues, particularly if the committee desires to take a more proactive oversight role.

- Greg Baruso: Need to focus on recruiting people who have an interest in pipeline safety, and people who have some knowledge of pipelines.
- Sean Mayo: Applications are received by the Governor's office and forwarded to the UTC for review and comment.

CCOPS-3: CCOPS should reach out more directly to the impacted and concerned public, especially around active pipeline issues, to give them a voice and to better understand their concerns.

- Greg Baruso: Juliana took the lead and she is no longer with us. Not sure where she was on the process.
- Ron Bowen: Wants a "canned" presentation for the model zone ordinance and land planning.
- Sean Mayo: Forwarded the Land Planning presentation to the members. Suggested tailoring the presentation for the audience.

CCOPS-4: CCOPS webpage should include a way for citizens to contact CCOPS leadership directly.

- Patrick Davis: The Report on Washington State Pipeline Safety is on the CCOPS website.
- Jerome Delvin: We need to allow the public to interface with the Committee. This opportunity is not available on the CCOPS website.
- Sean Mayo: Public emails are received by Denise Witchey and forwarded to the Committee. Public concerns will be put on the agenda and discussed at the next scheduled meeting.
- Denise Witchey: Interested citizens are placed on the CCOPS Interested Parties email list. Meeting notices and agendas are sent to the CCOPS Interested Parties.

CCOPS-5: CCOPS should review the WUTC's [2004 Public Awareness Strategy Report](#) with a focus on how they may be able to help reinvigorate that report's goal to "create and nurture a network of pipeline safety leaders."

The 2004 Public Awareness Strategy Report (*this document is posted on the CCOPS website.*)

CCOPS-6: CCOPS should identify and design a small group (less than 10) of pipeline safety indicators that help them and the public understand how Washington State is doing in keeping pipelines safe. These indicators should be updated and discussed each year by the committee to help focus the committee's efforts, and published on the CCOPS webpage.

- Greg Baruso: Suggested that this recommendation be tackled when the Committee is fully staffed.
- Nick Peelo: Reminded the members that the key point for indicators is to understand that there are leading and lagging indicators. Indicators need to be specific and measurable, not generalized.
- Sean Mayo: Identify what is important to the Committee. The Pipeline Safety Program can help with the technical indicators.
- Janet Alderton: Interested in the pipeline program giving a presentation on newer technologies for early detection of pipeline leaks. Specifically, imaging to detect methane leaks, acoustic and other fiber optic related leak detection.

CCOPS-7: CCOPS should distribute the [model consultation zone ordinance](#) developed by the Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC) to all elected officials and planning directors in jurisdictions where transmission pipelines occur to help those jurisdictions implement the consultation requirements under [RCW 19.122.033\(3\) & \(4\)](#). CCOPS should then work with the 12 counties among the 15 fastest-growing counties with pipelines that currently have no, or minimal pipeline safety provisions within their code, to encourage adoption of consultation zones.

- Jerome Delvin: Benton County is currently working on their comprehensive update. Wonders if the UTC would approach legislature and ask that the model ordinance, consultation zones and safety provisions be included at the time of comprehensive review for the planners.
- Sean Mayo: What are the most critical functions in these recommendations and how can the Committee start spreading the word? How will the Committee carry through with the items discussed? Brainstorm how to tackle these issues and discuss whom in your local government you can contact.
- Karen Cash: Prioritize and pick out one or two items to tackle, and then set action items.
- Ann Rendahl: Fall is a critical time to contact the land planners. Spring and summer are a busy times for land planners.
- Jerome Delvin: Planner meetings/conferences have been scheduled for this fall. That would be a good time for presentations.

ACTION ITEM: Jerome Delvin will contact WSAC to see about scheduling a 30-minute

presentation for their meeting in November. The meeting is on Nov. 15, which is the same day as the next CCOPS meeting. If a presentation can be scheduled for that time, Denise will take a poll of available meeting dates and reschedule the November meeting.

3) Continued Discussing of Item 2

4) Department of Ecology Update

Presented by Scott Zimmerman (*this document is posted on the CCOPS website*). Scott reviewed the pipeline oil spill contingency plans and drill updates.

5) UTC Update

Sean Mayo reviewed the activities conducted by the Pipeline Safety Program since the last meeting and provided an update on PHMSA activities.

- Steve Davidson is our new Damage Prevention Compliance Investigator.
- Darren Tinnerstet was hired as a Pipeline Safety Program Inspector.
- The Program has completed 113 pipeline safety inspections, 100 were unannounced crew inspections, the remaining were scheduled inspections.
- Staff continues to participate in several national level workgroups with NAPSR, PHMSA and Common Ground Alliance. Joe Subsits is the Chair of NAPSR's Liaison Committee; he is also a member of PHMSA's Voluntary Information-Sharing System Working Group. Staff has also been meeting with the Operator Qualification Task Group. This group is working on a standardized program for operator qualification.
- PHMSA Rulemaking – The Gas Pipeline Advisory Committee will meet in January to discuss the Mega Rule.
- PHMSA announced that Massoud Tahamtani was hired as the new Deputy Associate Administrator for Policy and Programs.
- The Pipeline Safety Program PHMSA audit is scheduled for the week of Sept. 10-14.
- NAPSR National Convention will be held in Santa Fe, NM the week of Oct. 15.

6) Damage Prevention Program Update

Lynda Holloway reviewed the 2018 DIRT Q1 and Q2 data with the members. (*These documents are posted on the CCOPS website*)

- The Damage Prevention Program will be promoting 811 at the Kittitas County Fair, Aug. 30-Sept. 3.
- Classes: National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) Dig Safe and Locator Training classes coming up this fall.
- The Dig Law Stakeholder Group will be meeting at the UTC in Sept. to discuss Dig Law changes. The group is discussing positive response

and all new utilities locatable. They are also working on clarifying or cleaning up the language in RCW 19.122

- 7) Follow-up of Outreach Efforts Discussed at the May 8, 2018 Meeting**
Possible meeting presentation at the WSAC Conference, Nov. 15, Jerome Delvin will check into this.
Ron Bowen will make contact with the State Emergency Managers and Chiefs.
Greg Baruso will meet with Carl Weimer to get contact information for the tribes.
Greg Baruso will get a list of the state legislators.
- 8) Election of Vice-Chair**
Greg Baruso opened up nominations.
Ron Bowen nominated Rebecca Sexton-Kelly.
In a unanimous vote, the Committee elected Rebecca Sexton-Kelly as the new Vice-Chair.
- 9) Recruitment of Members**
The Committee is in need of three general public members and one cities representative.
Ron Bowen will create a handout about the Committee to pass out at Call Before You Dig outreach events with Lynda.
- 10) Public Comments**
No Public Comments
- 11) Review of Action Items, Topics for Next Meeting and Other Business**
 - Jerome Delvin will check into presenting as the WSAC conference on Nov. 15.
 - Ron Bowen will make contact with first responders.
 - Dave Taylor will ask the AWC to post the opening for a CCOPS cities representative.
 - Greg Baruso will meet with Carl Weimer to get contact information for the tribes.
 - Greg Baruso will get a list of the state legislators.
 - Denise Witchey will forward PHMSA's daily news email to Committee Members.
 - Ron Bowen will draft a CCOPS tri-fold.
 - Sean Mayo suggested that the Committee Members review the [CCOPS website](#). The website is a huge resource for recommendations made in the Pipeline Safety Report.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:57 p.m.