

Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety
Meeting Minutes
Utilities and Transportation Commission
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW, Olympia, WA 98504
Dec. 7, 2017

Members Present:

Ron Schmitt, Chair
Greg Baruso, Vice-chair
Rebecca Sexton
Ron Bowen
Juliana Williams
Randy Tarter
Carl Weimer
Kate Blystone
Patrick Davis
Dave Taylor
Karen Cash
Janet Alderton
Nick Peelo

Absent Members:

Other Attendees:

Sean Mayo, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Joe Subsits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Debbie Becker, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Denise Crawford, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Darren Tinnerstet, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Lynda Holloway, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Kali Wrspir, UTC Pipeline Safety Program
Steve King, UTC Executive Director
Jay Balasbas, UTC Commissioner
Jason Lewis, UTC Transportation and Legislative Policy Advisor
Amanda Hathaway, UTC Communications
Jon Noski, UTC Legislative Director
Scott Zimmerman, Dept. of Ecology
Steve Ogle, Dept. of Ecology
Bill Rehse, NW Natural
JR Gonzalez, NW Natural
Janis Medley, CENSE, citizen
Jeanne Demund, CENSE, citizen

Agenda Items:

1) Welcome, Meeting Protocols, Introduction and Adoption of Sept. 21, 2017 Minutes

The meeting was brought to order by Greg Baruso who welcomed all attendees. In a unanimous vote, the Committee adopted the Sept.21, 2017 meeting minutes as written.

2) Review Draft of Pipeline Safety Report

Carl Wiemer reviewed the draft of the Pipeline Safety Report with the members. *(These documents are posted on the CCOPS website)*

- Cover options – What pictures to use on the cover?
- Include appendices? Or use live links? Carl suggested using appendices if printing. Live links for electronic document.
- Juliana suggested that if someone wants a higher level of detailed information, direct them to the website.

Action Item:

Committee Members have until Jan. 12, 2018 to recommend edits. Please contact Carl Weimer with edits, questions or concerns carl@pstrust.org

- Carl hopes to have the final draft ready for the Committee to review by Jan. 26, 2018.
- Surveys were sent to first responders, fire departments, police departments, emergency planners and local jurisdictions RE: knowledge of pipelines in their area. Carl is going to add the information from surveys to the report.
- Juliana would like to see how many people were surveyed and how many responded. She also suggested making the report a living document, where the fluctuating data could be flagged for the committee to periodically update.
- How does the CCOPS want to endorse the report? This will be discussed after the final draft is complete.
- Juliana suggested using a high contrast on the charts and graphs. She printed her report in black and white and the charts and graphs don't show up very well in black and white print.
- Ron Schmitt suggested that the Committee get together to review comments.

Action Item:

Staff will send a poll for teleconference dates and reserve the Commission's conference bridge line.

3) NW Natural's Training Program

Presented by Bill Rehse. *(This document is posted on the CCOPS website)*

Bill Rehse presented a comprehensive overview of NW Natural's Training Program and answered questions.

4) Department of Ecology Update

The Department of Ecology Pipeline Oil Spill Contingency Plan, Drill, and Geographic Response Plan Update was provided by Scott Zimmerman. *(This document is posted on the CCOPS website)* Community air monitoring plans are new, due to the revised rule. The idea is that each contingency plan will contain a template on how the air monitoring will happen. This is

still in the development phase. The Northwest Area Contingency Plan workgroup developed a document [Section 9418 Emergency Response-Community Air Monitoring](#) that provides a template if anyone is interested in reviewing.

5) GridEX IV Overview

Committee Member Karen Cash provided an overview of the mock GridEX IV drill that occurred on Nov. 15&16. *(This document is posted on the CCOPS website)*

GridEX is a NERC sponsored event that allows Federal, State and local government agencies to work with the industry utilities to exercise and improve the response to grid security emergencies. This was a national event. Parts of Canada and Mexico participated as well. The exercise included simulated cyber and physical attacks. The plan was to see how the industry worked with government and other industry peers to ensure that their systems are up and operating, ensuring that citizens had power and other utilities. Communication a key in this exercise.

Sean Mayo, Pipeline Safety Director of the UTC was an observer of the event. He noted that initially everyone focused within their own groups and as time passed the network of communication passed to other groups.

The NERC GridEx public report will be available Mar. 30, 2018.

6) UTC Update

Pipeline Safety Director Sean Mayo provided the UTC Update.

PHMSA Audit

The Pipeline Safety Program is audited every year by PHMSA. Director of States, Michael Thompson spent the week of Sept. 18 auditing the 2016 Pipeline Safety Program year. The initial return for the 2016 audit is that we received 100%. This result is not official until we receive a letter from PHMSA.

Pipeline Safety Workload

In November, the Pipeline Safety Program conducted 39 field inspections. Four of the 39 inspections were scheduled and 35 were no notice crew or construction inspections. The Program closed out a total of eight inspections.

The Program responded to the explosion incident on Nov. 2, in Sultan. Staff worked with local fire officials and first responders at the scene. The fire marshal determined that incident was not related to natural gas. It is believed that a leaky propane cylinder in the garage of the home initiated the explosion.

The 2018 WorkPlan was developed.

The engineer on-call scheduling methodology was revised.

Damage Prevention: The Damage Prevention Program initiated six investigations, sent 48 warning letters and recommended \$10k in penalties. Four outreach events were conducted.

Joe Subsits and Sean Mayo attended the Pipeline Safety Trust Conference.

Joe Subits and Pipeline Safety Engineer Dennis Ritter attended the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 921 training.

Next month the Pipeline Safety Program's focus will be:
Working with PSE on a draft MOU on PSE's LNG Plant Operation Standards.

The Pipeline Safety Program is working on rolling out a quarterly newsletter to the operators. The newsletter will provide operators with Pipeline Safety Program information, updated program schedules, industry trends, and Q&A.

Serving the Committee and providing insight.

7) Damage Prevention Update

Lynda Holloway reviewed the Q3 DIRT Report (*This document is posted on the CCOPS website*) The CGA is going to remove "failure to use hand tool" and "data not collected" designations from the report at the beginning of 2018.

The Damage Prevention Program will be providing four National Utility Contractor Association (NUCA) Dig Safe Training opportunities. The Program will also be hosting four Staking University locating classes. The classes are paid for by the Damage Prevention Penalty Assessment account funds which are designated for worker safety.

The Damage Prevention Program is working with the Washington State Dig Law Safety Committee for an opportunity to provide an online Dig Safe class.

Stakeholder meetings are ongoing for the Dig Law (RCW 19.122) to present a bill to the 2018 Legislation. The bill will be sponsored by a stakeholder, not an agency request legislation. There's discussion of positive response, APW marking standards, that new utilities be locatable, reconfiguring the Safety Committee Review panels, and revising some of the definitions.

Damage Prevention will have a booth at the Northwest Flower and Garden Show in February 2018. Committee Members are invited to volunteer at the show and help Lynda provide Call 811 Before You Dig outreach.

Darren Tinnerstet provided an update on the Damage Prevention Investigations for 2017.

Sean Mayo introduced Kali Wraspir as the Transportation Specialist in the Pipeline Safety Program.

8) Report from members on activities since last meeting

Janet Alderton reported that she attended the 2017 Pipeline Safety Trust (PST) Annual Meeting in New Orleans. All of the presentations are available on the PST website www.pstrust.org

Greg Baruso also attended the 2017 Pipeline Safety Trust's Annual Meeting. He was impressed with the experts that attended from all over the US, and Canada.

Carl Weimer reported that the PST will be holding a pipeline training this coming spring, in Houston, TX. The training will include pipeline operations and regulation. Contact Carl Weimer by the end of December if you are interested in attending.

9) 2018 Meeting Dates

Action Item:

Denise Crawford will send a Doodle Poll for the 2018 Meeting dates, including options for the February teleconference to discuss the Pipeline Safety Report.

10) Public Comments

Citizens Janis Medley and Jeanne Demund introduced themselves. They represent about 3,000 residents between Renton and Redmond who are concerned about PSE's Energize Eastside project. They attended the meeting to meet the CCOPS members and discuss the project with them and with the Pipeline Safety Trust.

Jean Demund voiced concerns of lack of information RE: co-location of pipelines with other types of facilities. She noted the attempts being made surrounding standards for new pipelines and very little attention being paid to best practices, regulations, and guidelines for increasing density around the existing pipelines.

Randy Tarter commented that the transmission pipeline companies generally welcome public involvement surrounding land use. It's beneficial for the pipeline company if the public is aware.

11) Review of Action Items, Topics for Next Meeting, and Other Business

Action Items:

- CCOPS members comments on the Pipeline Safety Report are due to Carl Weimer by Jan. 12, 2018.
- Denise Crawford will send a Doodle Poll for the teleconference meeting and the 2018 meeting dates.
- Carl Weimer will provide a list of the jurisdictions that participated in the land use planning meetings back in 2006.

Sean Mayo reminded the members that the Commission will be relocating to Lacey, late in the fall 2018. Depending on when the Commission moves, the last meeting of the year may end up being rescheduled.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 2:31p.m.