

**Washington State Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety**  
Meeting Minutes  
Utilities and Transportation Commission  
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive SW, Olympia, WA 98504  
September 25, 2019

**Present members:**

Jerome Delvin, Chair  
Aaron Losik  
Greg Baruso  
Phillip Lemley  
Ron Bowen  
Randy Tarter  
Karen Cash  
Leanne Guier  
Patrick Davis

**Absent members:**

Nick Peelo  
Janet Alderton

**Other attendees:**

Sean Mayo, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Joe Subsits, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Debbie Becker, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Rell Koizumi, UTC Pipeline Safety Program  
Steve Davidson, UTC Pipeline Safety Program (via bridge line)  
Bret Burkhart, Industry  
Carl Weimer, Pipeline Safety Trust (via bridge line)

**Agenda Items:**

- 1) **Welcome, Meeting Protocols, Introduction and Adoption of May 8, 2019 Minutes**  
The meeting was brought to order by Jerome Delvin. In a unanimous vote, the Committee adopted the May 8, 2019 meeting minutes as written.  
The committee welcomed two new members, Phillip Lemley and Aaron Losik, both representing the General Public.  
Sean Mayo informed the committee that Rebecca Sexton-Kelly resigned, and Jerome Delvin accepted the position to be Chair of the committee.
- 2) **Pipeline Safety Trust and CCOPS – Outreach Project**  
Carl Weimer (via bridge line) informed committee members that PHMSA granted the funds for the PST's Community Technical Assistance Grant. The Pipeline Safety Trust and Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety will work together to fine-tune the presentation and coordinate delivery to 15 local government personnel including, legislative councils, planning commissions, and local emergency planning committees.

The Pipeline Safety Trust is holding its annual conference in New Orleans from November 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>. Carl Weimer invited a committee member to attend this conference on behalf of CCOPS.

**ACTION ITEM:** Make the appropriate changes to the 2017 Pipeline Safety in Washington State report. These edits would include removing information that is not pertinent to the public.

**ACTION ITEM:** Carl Weimer will make a presentation at the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**ACTION ITEM:** Individual members need to come to the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting prepared to commit (or not commit) to attending the outreach presentations.

3) **Discussion on Potential Indicators**

Sean Mayo presented 7 indicators/metrics to the committee and asked the members what type of reports and data they would like the UTC staff to present to them quarterly.

Safety Indicators:

1. Incidents per Mile
2. Leaks per mile
3. Excavation damage
4. "Problematic Pipe"
5. Miles by decade installed
6. Causes of Failure
7. State reportable incidents/Federally reportable incidents

Karen Cash suggested trending the miles of unknown pipe in Washington State to see if there is a decreasing trend in the data. The committee members decided to use the 7 indicators Sean presented plus Karen's suggestion, for a total of 8 reports.

8. Unknown pipe

**ACTION ITEM:** UTC staff will prepare a report(s) based on the chosen potential indicators to be discussed at the November meeting.

4) **GridEx V Presentation**

Karen Cash gave a presentation on the upcoming GridEx V, Grid Security Exercise. GridEx V will take place on November 13-14, 2019, Karen invited the committee members to come observe Avista's participation in this large-scale electricity grid security and crisis response exercise. The purpose of GridEx V is to provide an opportunity to exercise how to detect, respond, and recover from a severe cyber and/or physical attack.

5) **Department of Ecology Update**

*The document is posted on the CCOPS website.* Sean Mayo presented on behalf of Scott Zimmerman from Ecology. Scott is with committee member Nick Peelo

attending the McChord Pipeline Spill Drill. Jerome Delvin made a suggestion that the members take a field trip to attend a scheduled spill drill then following the drill, have their quarterly CCOPS meeting to discuss what they observed.

6) **Tour of the UTC's New Headquarters**

The Utilities and Transportation Commission moved to its new headquarters now located at 621 Woodland Square Loop S.E. in Lacey Washington. Sean Mayo gave the members a tour of the new building.

7) **UTC Update**

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

- Pipeline Safety Inspectors are spending more time in the field with Operators now that they don't have assigned desks, but touchdown stations.
- Glynn Blanton from the Office of State Programs came to perform the UTC's annual program audit last week. Although it is not official, Glynn did not take any points away. The official report of the UTC's score will arrive via a letter from PHMSA in several weeks.
- Every third-year PHMSA does a fiscal audit in conjunction with the program audit. The fiscal audit will happen in 2020, the UTC is working hard to prepare for this very detailed audit.
- 2020 Workplan: The UTC has submitted its 2020 interstate workplan to the PHMSA Western Region and is waiting to hear back for approval or negotiation regarding the workplan.
- API Training: All UTC Inspectors will be American Petroleum Institute certified by December.

The UTC tries to find ways to improve the knowledge and well-roundedness of all inspectors. To do so, the UTC looks for training outside of the PHMSA qualifications. i.e. Fire Safety Investigation Techniques

- PHMSA Rulemaking: Office of Management and Budget (OMB) released a statement that the final rules will be published in the Federal Register, soon:
  - Safety of Hazardous Liquid Pipelines
  - Enhanced Emergency Order Procedures
  - Safety of Gas Transmission Pipelines, MAOP Reconfirmation, Expansion of Assessment Requirements and Other Related Amendments
- Joe Subsits, UTC's Chief Engineer, has received the 2019 National Association of Pipeline Safety Representatives Chairman's Award. This award is given annually to a member whose service significantly contributes to furthering NAPSR's pipeline safety goals.

8) **Damage Prevention Update**

Debbie Becker gave an update on the damage prevention program.

- A review of the damage prevention investigations and recent penalties.

- A data chart showing the upward trend of the number of violations penalized by year.

9) **Public Comments**

Jerome Delvin asked for anyone interested in providing public comments. Randy Tarter mentioned Pipeline Awareness Northwest, which is several emergency responder training drills facilitated locally by City of Seattle First Responders.

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

- If you would like to attend Avista's GridEx V drill, contact Karen Cash.
- UTC Staff will prepare the 8 reports of potential indicators/metrics.
- Next meeting, members will discuss who will be attending which outreach meetings.
- UTC staff will setup 2020 CCOPS Meetings and report back.
- Carl Weimer will be presenting the outreach presentation.

Jerome Delvin nominated Aaron Losik for Vice-Chair.  
The motion was approved.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.