**WCHA Utility Committee Meeting Minutes**

**January 24th, 2023 @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Laguna Room, Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells**

1. Chairman Hardy called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

*Members attending in-person:* Chris Hardy-Columbia, Chad Johnson-Pierce, Phil Hewitt-Vernon, Mike Schwab-Washington, Brandon Hytinen-Oconto, Alex Valley – Racine

*Members Absent:* NW – Vacant, Roland Hawk-Wood, Greg Schnell - Sheboygan

*Others attending:* John Hanz-Lincoln, Chris Bates-Pepin, Roger Petrick-Price, Michael Baumann-WisDOT, Bob Fasick- WisDOT, Abby Williamson-WisDOT, Kathy Jennings-WisDOT, Gayle Lindenberg-Robert E. Lee, Dan Sande-WE Energies

1. Each person in attendance introduced themselves and who they were representing.
2. Motion by Hewitt, second by Hardy, to approve minutes of June 2022. Motion Passed.
3. Discussion about non-responsive utility locates (no action taken):
	* Andy Devos with DOT is on the Diggers Hotline Advisory Board;
	* Chris will send out the tracking spreadsheet for non-responsive tickets;
	* Discussion about no-show tickets;
	* Discussion about Diggers new outreach format (company/department meetings instead of community meetings).
4. Dodge County requested some edits to the Utility Accommodation Policy.
5. Chris discussed possible changes to the UAP regarding Environmental Coordination and Checklist. Bob discussed recent history of DNR involvement with utilities.
6. Chris is timing out from the Utility Committee. Phil nominated Chad for chair, second by Alex. Motion carried. Chad nominated Phil for Secretary, second by Chris. Motion carried.
7. Other topics for discussion:
	* Bob notified committee that Kathy will likely be doing his job in the future.
	* Mike asked about updating the conflict spreadsheet. Also looking for pilot projects, which may be on the local system. The project is an Excel worksheet to work with conflicts. It will be a little more effort on the front end.
	* Utility conflict report: in 2022 it was used on everything. 11% of projects had conflict, with 70-80% of those being on the STH system. 2021 will be posted on WISDOT website soon.
	* WISDOT is working on a statewide utility conference in October or November. Location is TBD. Organizers are looking for presenters and topics.
	* John asked if the UAP is approved by the Highway Committee or by the County Board as an ordinance.
	* Bob discussed the inappropriate use of green lights by contractors and provision language about not using green lights.
	* Dan is on the Diggers Board and is putting together a group of stakeholders.
	* Chris asked about the completion notice in the UAP.
	* Columbia County sends out reminder letters to utilities regarding markers.
8. Motion by Johnson, second by Hewitt to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chad Johnson, PE (Pierce)

WCHA Utility Committee Secretary