

draft Data and Research Committee Minutes  
Thursday, January 4, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

**Chair:** Lee Tumminello

**Voting Members:** Lee Tumminello, Melanie Lewis, Nate Rivera, Alba Vogland, Kevin Hennessy, Connor Toney, Mitch Burgelela, Dale Bromaghin, and KC Chumachenko.

**Non-voting members:** Josh Thomas and Kitty O'Keefe.

**Guests:** Scott Gallegos, Frank Planton and Kim Boyd-OCC. Jeff Simas, City of Medford. Diana Anderson, Ziplly. Trish Schoof and Erica Lee – CGA.

1. Announcements and Introductions
  - a. Announcements and Guest sign-in
  - b. Motion to approve the minutes from 8.29.23 by Kevin and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dale. Kitty to post on OUNC website.
  - c. Chair – Lee thanked members and guests for attending. She reminded members of the two primary objectives for the meeting: #1 Guiding Direction and #2 Proving Effectiveness.
2. Old Business
  - a. Recap last meeting
    - o Oregon DIRT Report findings – Josh shared we have a 5-year trend in Oregon to reduce damages. We have seen an increase in damages in Jackson, Douglas and Umatilla counties and we may want to focus outreach in these counties.
    - o Data sources – Josh shared we have identified additional data sources beyond DIRT to help guide our efforts.
    - o Measurement and reporting – Josh mentioned partnering with utilities for damage resources they can share with us.
  - b. Common Ground Alliance 2023 DIRT Report recommendations
    - o Trish Schoof and Erica Lee – CGA representatives (See their full ppt attached)
      - Focus for today's meeting:
        - Overview of DIRT Report 2022 Key Findings
        - 2023 Industry Survey Results
        - 811 Center Industry Spotlight
        - Data-Driven Strategy to Decrease Damages: 50in 5 Challenges.
        - Google Fiber discussion on white paper: to learn more, [click here](#)
3. New Business
  - a. Outlook for 2024 – Josh reminded members we are working on a Service Tariff increase in 2024 along with 7 proposed rule changes. Approximately 30% of board members are new. We are evolving and focused on continual improvement and how to maximize board efficiency and effectiveness. Josh reminded members from the last meeting that guest speakers reiterated you can't put all your stock into DIRT. However, it's the best we have and provides relevant information to draw actionable conclusions. OCC Master Report is a helpful tool. OPUC and OSHA have incident reports. Working closely with utilities and comparing information with them is another great resource.
  - o Committee needs/requests for information:
    - Mandatory damage reporting –Melanie had submitted her request via the concept submission form. (See attachment for reference) Josh stated, he can start an Issue Summary. Frank shared other states that have adopted damage ticket; downside: may not capture root cause... just that a damage happened. Kansas 811 just added a damage ticket, but OCC has no data yet. Does the report that Scott created show compliance? No. WA811 has in their law, damage reporting as a requirement. But does not know statistics. How do you enforce? Kevin asked CGA reps, how many fields are part of a single damage report? (Fields of entry must a person provide?)

(See CGAs form attached) She shared CGA has been looking at having Call Centers collect the damage data. Kevin commented, he sees from the excavator side: what is the benefit of me reporting this damage if I'm getting something out of it? Is there added value for the stakeholder? CGA shared end of February roll out with a user-friendly app to collect data. Lee suggested waiting till after the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter (concept form consideration) and look at Colorado's process reporting for comparison. Tabled this discussion.

- Definition of excavation excludes sidewalk, road, and ditch maintenance of less than 12" (data from other states?) (ORS 757.542(3) and OAR 952-001-0010(8))
  - Members asked why this on the Data & Research agenda?
  - Will request a concept form from Jaimie for clarification on definition.
  - Kevin shared that CGAs definition of excavation is more conservative and doesn't include some of the exemptions that many states have in their law.
- Service tariff – Josh shared long term sustainability; increase in operational costs and staffing costs to consider with an increase in our service tariff. Josh is working on an Issue Summary to bring back to the board.
- Consideration of standing committee instead of ad hoc – Lee asked members if we consider keeping this committee as an ad hoc or standing? Some members shared concerns with each committee chair role along with what is our membership within each committee. Lee asked that we continue this conversation at the next meeting. Josh said this is a bigger conversation and would require an issue summary for further discussion on ad hoc vs standing committee. Nate commented on the Contract Committee; it's a 3-meeting process. Feels an ad hoc committee for the RFP process will be needed (not in this committee) Kevin offered to assist in the RFP process when it gets going.
- Positive Response (mandatory/enhanced) consideration - tabled.

4. For the Good of the Order –

- Lee asked Kitty to schedule the next committee meeting.
- Nate would like this meeting scheduled for 2 hours to allow for enough time for substantive discussions on agenda items. Members agreed.

5. Next Meeting – tbd

*Motion to adjourn by Connor and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Alba at 11:34am  
Minutes submitted by Kitty OKeefe on 1.12.24*

**Action Items:**

- Kitty to schedule next meeting based on member availability; Positive Response moves to next agenda
- Committee to revisit mandatory damage reporting/damage tickets after first quarter, looking at Washington, Kansas and Colorado for comparison, Scott provided a spreadsheet, may need issue summary
- Melanie preparing concept submission form for reconsideration of standing/ad hoc committees
- Josh to request creation of RFP/Contract Committee for management of notification center (current contract ends December 2025)
- Jaimie to provide concept submission form for agenda item addressing sidewalk, road and ditch maintenance
- Josh is working with Melanie and Nate on an issue summary addressing a long term approach to the service tariff.

CGA's action items for follow-up from yesterday's call:

- DQI Weighting – you will find a breakdown in the 2021 DIRT report [here](#).
- [CO 811 Spotlight](#)
- Data API conversation – When the timing is right, we would love to talk more about a data API to DIRT to pass along data via Oregon 811. We can discuss what others have done, answer questions, and determine if this is a good option to explore in the future.
- As Erika mentioned, we will also be in touch on a survey in the coming months as well to gain a better understanding of mandatory reporting, enforcement, etc. across states. More to come!