



STATEWIDE ONE-CALL NOTIFICATION CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 05/07/2025
APPROVED

LOCATION:

Ruhlman's Steakhouse
603 US-6
Ashland, NE 68003-2155

Committee Meetings: 9:00 AM

Board Meeting 10:00 AM

1. Call Meeting to Order – 10:006 AM

- 1.1. **Housekeeping** – Ed Jarrett spoke.
- 1.2. **Meeting Notice** – Ed Jarrett spoke.
- 1.3. **Announcements**—The meeting notes were published in the Lincoln Journal Star on April 28, 2025, and posted to the Nebraska 811 website on April 28, 2025.

2. Roll Call

- 2.1. **Voting members present** – Jerry Augustyn, Linda Costello, Andy Hartman, Patrick Hintz, Ed Jarrett, Dan Maschka, Brandon Jones, James Saville, Steve Slezak, John Buckley, and Nathan Stewart.
- 2.2. **Voting members absent** – Scott Barry, Chris Jacobsen, Tim Loberg, Rick Melcher, Chad Roberts, BJ Woehler.
- 2.3. **Other Present**
 - State Fire Marshal's Office – David Levering, Kevin Bumgardner, Daniel Niles, and Chris Gray.
 - Attorney General's Office – Ken Yoho arrived late.
 - Technical Advisor – Regina Shields
 - OCC Staff – Matt Ruddo, Jill Geyer, Tyler Nesheim (via Teams Meeting), and Catherine Adams
 - Public Attendance – Doug Olson (Cox), Samantha Harris (Lincoln Electric Systems), Liza Godsey (E&A Consulting), and Doug Merklinger (E&A Consulting)

3. Introductions and Public Comment – Samatha Harris from Lincoln Electric introduces herself. She is in charge of utility Locating.

4. Approval of Meeting Agenda

- 4.1. **Motion to Approve:** Steve Slezak **Second:** Linda Costello
 - **Voting Yes** Jerry Augustyn, Linda Costello, Andy Hartman, Patrick Hintz, Ed Jarrett, Dan Maschka, Brandon Jones, James Saville, Steve Slezak, John Buckley, and Nathan Stewart.
 - **Voting No** - none
 - **Voting Members Absent** - Scott Barry, Chris Jacobsen, Tim Loberg, Rick Melcher, Chad Roberts, BJ Woehler.

5. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- 5.1. There was a discussion about the previous minutes regarding the use of the term “Technical Advisor.” Dan Maschka asked where the term originated, and he was told it was assigned at the last meeting. He also wanted to know who the “Technical Advisor” is. It was explained that Regina Shields is the NE811 Board of Directors' Technical Advisor.
- 5.2. A motion was presented to officially designate the term 'Technical Advisor' for Regina Shields's position with the NE811 Board of Directors and to approve the previous minutes.



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5.3. Motion to approve the minutes from last meeting: Dan Maschka **Second:** James Saville

- **Voting Yes** Jerry Augustyn, Linda Costello, Andy Hartman, Patrick Hintz, Ed Jarrett, Dan Maschka, Brandon Jones, James Saville, Steve Slezak, John Buckley, and Nathan Stewart.
- **Voting No** - none
- **Voting Members Absent** - Scott Barry, Chris Jacobsen, Tim Loberg, Rick Melcher, Chad Roberts, BJ Woehler.

6. Public Comment –

6.1. No public comment. However, everyone from the public introduced themselves.

7. Committee Reports

- 7.1. Policy Committee (Steve Slezak) discussed the Records and Information Plan (RIMP). We agreed to hold meetings over the next few months to review the RIMP so it can be presented at the next board meeting for discussion and possible final approval. It was noted that the Nebraska State Fire Marshal's Office and the Nebraska Attorney General should have the exclusive right to review records. We decided to address that and other concerns of the board members.
- 7.2. We also discussed the Policy Committee addressing the 18" tolerance zone and how it is measured from the marks on the ground. There was significant concern that locating companies are overstating their marks to widen the tolerance zone for the underground utilities.
- 7.3. There was also discussion around creating standardized utility marking for all utility locating. We decided that we will address this topic after we address and finalize the RIMP and the 18" tolerance zone conversations.
- 7.4. The final topic was to discuss a request from a company to submit 3K to 4K soil boring tickets at one time to the NE811 ticket system. We discussed safety and the contractor's responsibility to complete the tickets within the two business day timeframe.
- 7.5. There was a motion to deny this company the ability to submit 3K to 4k soil boring tickets all at one time.
 - **Motion to Deny:** John Buckley **Second:** Linda Costello
 - **Voting Yes** - Jerry Augustyn, Linda Costello, Andy Hartman, Patrick Hintz, Ed Jarrett, Dan Maschka, Brandon Jones, James Saville, Steve Slezak, John Buckley, and Nathan Stewart.
 - **Voting No** - none
 - **Voting Members Absent** - Scott Barry, Chris Jacobsen, Tim Loberg, Rick Melcher, Chad Roberts, BJ Woehler.
- 7.6. **Legislative Committee** (Andy Hartman - There is nothing to discuss with this committee. But it was decided that the Legislative Committee would take ownership of the bi-annual report to the Legislature.
- 7.7. **Advertising Committee** (Linda Costello): She spoke about Supernova and our digital platform advertising with them through Instagram, Facebook, and X. We also discussed NE811 exposure at the Nebraska football games, Keep Beatrice Beautiful, Dozer Days, and Big Dig.
- 7.8. **By-Laws Committee** (Chris Jacobsen): Chris was not able to attend the meeting, so all the discussions that we had were tabled until the next meeting, when we could address the topics with Chris. The topics were about changing the bi-laws for travel out of state versus in-state. In particular, Section 1, sentence 3.



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8. Damage Prevention Resource Center

- 8.1. **DPRC Status Report** (Catherine Adams)—Catherine reviewed the OCC ticket report (see report). The main point is that the ticket count for 2025 was 3.1% higher than that of 2024. One big highlight is that NE811 members have saved \$287,806 because the majority of tickets have been placed through the online service. For other information, see the OCC reports in the document provided
- 8.2. **Advertising/Education/Outreach** (Jill Geyer) - (See report) Jill reviewed the grant application page and noted that the 2025 grants are not open yet and are not awarded. The SFM said there should be nothing to worry about regarding being awarded the grants. Jill discussed past outreach and the great numbers we had for the Safety Summit. Jill also talked about Keep Beatrice Beautiful and the TV coverage we received. Lastly, she talked about 8/11 day and doing site visits.
- 8.3. **One Call Concepts** (Matt Ruddy): Matt discussed the upcoming Users Group Conference that will be in Nashville from September 22nd to 25th.

9. Treasurer Report and Approval (Linda Costello): Linda reviewed the report and answered questions as they came up (see report).

- 9.1 There was a motion to approve the treasurer's report.
- 9.2 **Motion Approve:** Steve Slezak **Second:** Jerry Augustyn
- **Voting Yes** - Jerry Augustyn, Linda Costello, Andy Hartman, Patrick Hintz, Ed Jarrett, Dan Maschka, Brandon Jones, James Saville, Steve Slezak, John Buckley, and Nathan Stewart.
 - **Voting No** - none
 - **Voting Members Absent** - Scott Barry, Chris Jacobsen, Tim Loberg, Rick Melcher, Chad Roberts, BJ Woehler.

10. State Fire Marshal's Report

- 10.1. **Chief Deputy Report** (David Levering) – David mentioned that grants will be closed in June, and he expects to hear something soon afterward. He also noted that they have investigated approximately 30 complaints and some notices have been sent to violators. On April 28th, the new committee will review some cases. Finally, he stated that all 2024 cases will no longer be enforced, as they don't bridge to 2025. David informed the board that the SFMs will attend the Stakeholders' meetings in June and July.
- 10.2. **Damage Prevention Deputy Report** (Kevin Bumgardner) – Kevin discussed design tickets. He said that if a company calls in a ticket, as a “dig ticket,” and they don't plan on digging. They are in violation of NE811 laws. And utility companies are not responsible for locating the ticket. Kevin stated that the SFM considers “pot holing” digging. There was some additional conversation around this topic from members of the public attending the meeting.
- 10.3. **Technical Advisor Report** (David Levering) – There are applications for the open NE811 board positions, but there have been no appointments as of yet.

11. Attorney General's Report (Ken Yoho) – There was no Attorney General's report

12. Old Business

- 12.1. There was a brief discussion about the CGA conference in Orlando, FL. We discussed the good experience that everyone had and all the good information that came from the conference.

13. New Business

- 13.1. We had a decision about having a board member networking event. It was decided that Steve would bring some ideas to the next meeting to discuss with the board.
- 13.2. Jill brought up traveling to the Users Group and needed to know who was going. She requested that board members reach out to her if they are interested in attending.



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14. Closing Comments from the Board President (Nathan Stewart) – no closing comments

The next meeting will be at: The next meeting date and time were tabled because the President needed to look at his schedule to determine a date in late July or early August.

15. Adjournment – occurred at 1:40 PM

15.1. **Motion Approve:** Steve Slezak **Second:** Ed Jarrett