

MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 1993
FT. MYERS, FLORIDA

The Winter meeting of the Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Chairman Mark Sweet with 104 in attendance.

Bill Garrett offered the invocation and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Sweet introduced Miss Dale King, from the Mayor's office, City of Ft. Myers. Miss King welcomed our group to Southwest Florida and the City of Ft. Myers.

Chairman Sweet called for self introductions and acknowledged and thanked our sponsors Ron Lipham and Angela Wallace of Utility Consultants for hosting the Thursday evening hospitality reception and Nick Zembillas of Tri-Duct Corporation for hosting the Friday morning coffee.

Chairmen Sweet asked if there were any corrections to the minutes of the Summer meeting, August 7, 1992, in St. Augustine, Florida. There being no corrections, a motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes and waive their reading.

HISTORIAN'S REPORT

Chairmen Sweet called on Mr. Tom Duggar to give the Historian's report, which is attached to these minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Chairman Sweet called on Vice-Chairman Dennis Black to give the Treasurer's Report:

Balance as of November 6, 1992	\$363.25
<u>Receipts:</u>	
November 6, 1992 Meeting Registration	435.00
Sale of Lapel Pins	33.00
<u>Expenditures:</u>	0.00
Balance as of February 5, 1993	\$831.25

FDOT UPDATE

Chairman Sweet requested an FDOT update from Mr. Jerry Sasser.

Jerry Sasser, State Utility Engineer addressed the following issues:

- * FDOT is still working with their CAD system.
- * Directional boring. Once again, Jerry requested utility companies send him lists of preferred, qualified directional boring contractors they have used.
- * The FDOT needs better plans, with more accurate information about existing utility locations. This is needed to reduce delay claims.
- * During FDOT construction, utility company representatives are needed on the work site, in case problems arise, who can make decisions for their respective companies.
- * Jerry requested better attendance at Pre-Design, Pre-Construction and other FDOT Conferences by the utility companies.
- * Jerry discussed, and stressed the importance of, establishing One-Point Contacts between the utility companies and the FDOT.
- * The subject of claims was addressed by Jerry. There is a possibility the attorneys for the FDOT may recommend billing, if the claim is the fault of the utility company.
- * Paul Kaczorowski will be conducting seminars for Metric Conversion in each of the Districts for FDOT employees. Jerry announced space would be available for utility companies. This will provide the utility employees with the opportunity to obtain the same training that the State employees will receive.
- * Jerry requested utility companies have a person who is responsible, and has authority, sign the Utility Relocation Schedules.
- * The FDOT is considering a revision of the Utility Relocation Schedule. Jerry requested utility companies send him any suggestions they have for the improvement of the Schedule.
- * Jerry mentioned the FDOT is also thinking of changing the Joint Project Agreement (JPA) forms and that they will be promoting Joint Project Agreements more in the future.
- * Beginning in May or June, the FDOT will be meeting with the Counties to advocate their using the FDOT Utility Accommodations Manual format.

SPEAKERS

Chairman Sweet called on Dick McConville to introduce the guest speaker.

Dick introduced Mr. Derek H. Brennan, Vice President of Network Planning & Engineering, United Telephone of Florida. Mr. Brennan gave an excellent presentation entitled "A Future Vision of the Telephone Industry".

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hamid Zahir, Jacksonville Electric Authority announced that Bill Garrett was retiring from JEA by the end of February. This will be Bill's last FUCC meeting. Hamid said a retirement luncheon would be held in Bill's honor on February 25.

Chairmen Sweet requested the cooperation of the membership in extending as much courtesy as possible to our guest speakers and give them our complete attention. Mark urged that we eliminate private conversations and other distracting activities during their presentations.

BUSINESS SECTION

FDOT DISTRICT REPORTS

District I - Larry Hammond - The success of District I is based on the performance of seven active local utility groups. The next semi-annual meeting will be March 11, 1993 at the Brenton Reef restaurant in Sarasota. The keynote speaker will be David May, FDOT District I Secretary, presenting the District I Update. Speaker number 2 will be Don Ross, Florida Environmental, Inc. who will talk about Wetland Issues. Speaker number 3 will be the District I Utility Staff. They will present a Work Shop on Relocating Schedules and Permitting.

District II - Buddy Dees - The District II Steering Committee will meet on February 23, 1993 to discuss the next Liaison Meeting. The next meeting will be held in the last part of April. Notification will be sent out the first week of April.

District III - Billy Payne - The District meeting will be held on February 25, 1993. Notices will be sent out prior to this date. District III has four very active local utility groups that are very involved in Relocation Schedules and other FDOT/Utility business.

District IV - R. DePrimo - The District's local utility groups have been very active. Continuing to send out monthly updates of the District's yearly work program to all utility companies.

District V - Richard Taylor - The next meeting will be February 11, 1993 at the Altamonte Springs Holiday Inn. Guest speaker will be Mr. Bob Cortelyou, FDOT Director of Production who will talk about the Work Program. There will be a video and discussion on Directional Boring. Richard Taylor, District Utility Engineer will address the new Work Book that is now available for Joint Participation and Utility Construction.

District VI - Jim McGetrick - No Report.

District VII - Arlene B. McGee - The next meeting will be March 26, 1993 at Holiday Inn Surfside on Clearwater Beach. The agenda includes a speaker on the Partnering concept being utilized by the FDOT on road construction projects.

FLORIDA TURNPIKE REPORT

Jim Haynie reported they will be having their Turnpike Utility Planning Group Meeting on February 25, 1993 at the Rolling Hills Country Club in Ft. Lauderdale. Mr. Eley, Director of the Turnpike Authority will be the main speaker. Jim will review the five year program which will be followed by an open forum.

INTEREST GROUP REPORTS

POWER - Scott Sidney - There were 31 people in attendance. Dennis LaBelle handed out draft copies of the new Utility Accommodation Manual. Dennis reviewed the major changes to the new manual. Larry Claxon brought up the problem of the FDOT requesting line relocations due to utilities causing safety hazards. A lengthy discussion followed on how the FDOT would classify a roadway unsafe.

A Round Table discussion was held on the following topics:

- * A question concerning whether Counties could require a Professional Engineer to sign and seal utility drawings dealing with road crossings.
- * Mark Sweet brought the group up to date on the recent ruling against Texas Utilities by the Texas Courts. The decision prohibited TU from charging different rates to cable companies when they sublease or use their cable for purposes other than TV.
- * Dennis LaBelle pointed out that the Federal Government has now approved break-away poles.
- * PSC approval of the 1993 NESC is still awaiting their review.
- * A process where FPL now allows cable TV and telephone companies to install their own services to power sources using FPL specifications. FPL then connects the service and sets the meter without engineering involvement. This new procedure was started after Hurricane Andrew and is still working.

TELEPHONE/TELECOMMUNICATIONS - Betsy Becker - There were 27 at the meeting. Talked about the Utility Accommodation Manual. All existing MOT's will be voided when the new manual comes out. We will be required to re-submit for approved MOT. The Metric Conversion was discussed and the impact it will have on permits.

UNDERGROUND - Carlos Solis - There were 27 people in attendance. The following subjects were discussed:

- * Utility Accommodation Manual -
 1. Updated Group on Activities of UAM Subcommittee and discussed changes made at the last meeting.
 2. Informed about the advertisement of the UAM on Friday, February 5, 1993.

- * Joint Trenching -
Discussion on promoting joint trenching of facilities in one excavation process and gave examples of projects where this procedure has been used.
- * Utility Index 700 -
Informed the Group of Jerry Sasser's request that utility companies provide the FDOT with Utility Standards on the MOT form.
- * Joint Project Agreement (JPA) pay item consolidation -
A lengthy discussion was held related to flexibility on FDOT's pay item codes. Will propose the creation of a subcommittee to work with the FDOT to make it easier for utilities to participate in Joint Project Agreements.
- * Report on the status of the One-Call bill in legislation filed by Southern Bell.
- * Report on the Asbestos Subcommittee's activities.
- * 1-900 telephone number -
The Greater Tampa Utility Group has proposed a 1-900 number to provide utility location information to surveyors and eliminate the problem of them calling "CALL CANDY" for their locates.

UTILITY NOTIFICATION CENTER - Margaret Smith - Margaret gave a report which is attached to these minutes.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

UTILITY ACCOMMODATION MANUAL - Dennis LaBelle - There is only one remaining issue that they are working on right now; the Maintenance of Traffic (MOT). Dennis said that the meeting was going to be moved from Tampa to Tallahassee so all the people involved with MOT could meet together and resolve it within the 21 day period. Dennis said he believes the Manual is fair to all and he recommended that we accept it after this one MOT issue is settled.

Dennis has asked Jerry Sasser if they could have a meeting in Tallahassee sometime in March to work on the Tallahassee level to resolve what needs to be done with the Utility Relocation Schedule before more controversy develops in that area.

JOINT USE - Buddy Bowyer - The subcommittee met January 12, 1993 at the Florida Power Corporation General Office Complex in St. Petersburg with 11 members in attendance, and again February 4, 1993 in Ft. Myers with 18 in attendance.

The subject being discussed is "Joint Trenching". The Committee developed the following Purpose Statement:

"This Committee is committed to assimilate design guidelines and procedures for the development of Joint Trench methods involving power, telephone and cable television facilities. We expect to see increased participation in Joint Trench as a means of reducing cost and improving customer service."

The Committee will be examining code requirements and exploring possible design and construction procedures and guidelines. See attached drawings.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 1993 at the Florida Power Corp. General Office Complex in St. Petersburg.

CSX/FDOT Right-of-Ways - Tom Duggar - See attached Memorandum to Committee members from Tom Duggar.

ASBESTOS - Arlene Brown-McGee - The Subcommittee met in January, 1993. The Subcommittee is reviewing the rules and directives from the FDOT. The Florida Coordinating Group, being a legislative group, is knowledgeable with governmental regulations and they are going over the Rules and Directives to help us with guidelines on asbestos pipelines in the FDOT right-of-ways. We hope to have an Industrial Hygienist as a speaker on the abatement of the asbestos pipe at a future meeting as well as handouts with guidelines for the utilities.

ONE-CALL NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION - Dan Buol - The One-Call Corporation has been formed and is named SUNSHINE STATE ONE-CALL OF FLORIDA, INC. As soon as a date is known for an organizational meeting it will be announced to the FUCC. Any individuals that are interested and wish to become a part of the corporation are invited to attend this meeting where the official board and membership role will be established.

UTILITY POLE RECORD KEEPING - Larry Claxton - Members are currently looking at the Utility Pole Report issued by the FHWA, which was just received. The report consists of a study done across the USA over a 10 year period. This report will give the committee a large amount of data to start working on how to deal with the pole safety issues on the highways.

JOINT USE R/W RELOCATION AGREEMENTS - Ron Worley - No report.

STANDARDS REVIEW - Tom Kennedy - In the near future, we will provide panel discussions and presentations of the State of Florida manuals, surveys, plans, books and other publications that contain rules and requirements that impact utilities and the Utility Accommodation Manual.

Presentations will consist of each of approximately 8 manuals, followed by panel discussions and open question and answer periods.

The Committee is working on the above and, hopefully, will have these discussions during the Friday morning session of the May FUCC meeting.

WATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT PERMIT REVIEW - Craig Terrana - In December, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) voted to adopt some rule changes that effect many of their administrative procedural activities and raises their permit fees. However, in light of Hurricane Andrew, they have postponed increasing permit fees indefinitely. In Craig's opinion, the SFWMD will start increasing their permit fees sometime this summer. Chairman Sweet asked if the Subcommittee could now be dissolved; Craig said that it could.

RAILROAD PERMITS - MAX WALLACE - No Report.

STEERING SUBCOMMITTEE - Dennis Black - The subcommittee met February 4, 1993 with 30 members in attendance. The first item reviewed was future meeting locations. They are:

MAY 6 & 7, 1993.....PALM COAST
AUGUST 5 & 6, 1993.....JUPITER BEACH
NOVEMBER 4 & 5, 1993.....TALLAHASSEE (MAY CHANGE TO OCALA)
FEBRUARY 3 & 4, 1994.....ST. PETE BEACH
MAY 5 & 6, 1994.....TALLAHASSEE
AUGUST 4 & 5, 1994.....PANAMA CITY
NOVEMBER 3 & 4, 1994.....DAYTONA BEACH

The forming of a new subcommittee was recommended by Carlos Solis to work with the FDOT on the pay item codes in the Joint Project Agreement (JPA) and their flexibility to utility companies.

Tom Kennedy explained to the Steering Committee members the intent and details of the Standards Review Subcommittee's presentations to be given in the near future. (SEE Standards Review Subcommittee report, page 6 of these minutes)

Dennis LaBelle suggested that a complete review of the present draft of the Utility Accommodation Manual be given by his Subcommittee to our membership. The Steering Subcommittee agreed and decided, at the Spring Meeting, to devote the time normally used for individual and combined Interest Group meetings to the review of the new Manual.

Betsy Becker, Co-chairperson of the Telephone/Telecommunications Interest Group brought up the concern with the FDOT Metric Conversion time table, it's effect on utility permits and training utility company employees. (SEE the 8th item in Jerry Sasser's FDOT UPDATE, page 2 of these minutes)

NEW BUSINESS

Chairmen Sweet addressed the matter of establishing a new Subcommittee for the Standardization of FDOT Pay Items. Carlos Solis has volunteered to Chair the Subcommittee.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Sweet at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

David W. Hall
Secretary