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FLORIDA UTILITIES Coordinating Committee

February 7, 1975

Ramada Inn South
St. Petersburg, Florida

The following is a list of persons who attended the February meeting, also denoting organization they represent:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FIRM</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
H. V. Gardner, Jr.	Orlando Utilities Comm.	Orlando, Fla.
W. J. Hopgood	Fla. Power & Light Co.	Miami, Fla.
R. E. Holsomback	Dept. of Transportation	Tampa, Fla.
V. B. Nolan	Fla. Power & Light Co.	Orlando, Fla.
M. E. Garlotte	Orlando Utilities Comm.	Orlando, Fla.
John F. Clark	United Telephone Co.	Avon Park, Fla.
Ray C. Colby	Florida Gas Company	Winter Park, Fla.
A. N. Brockman	Southern Bell	Jacksonville, Fla.
Paul Mundy	General Telephone Co.	Tampa, Fla.
C. E. Hanle, Jr.	Southern Bell	Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
John Coffield	Fla. Telephone Corp.	Leesburg, Fla.
Pop Edwards	A. T. & T. Co.	West Palm Beach, Fla.
Elliott Loyless	Tampa Electric Co.	Tampa, Fla.
Jimmy D. Harp	Florida Gas Company	Winter Park, Fla.
R. H. Corn	Fla. Gas Transmission	Winter Park, Fla.
B. G. Morris	Dept. of Transportation	Tallahassee, Fla.
David Mathews, Jr.	S E C O	Sumterville, Fla.
Jim Kellermann	S E C O	Sumterville, Fla.
A. E. Zimmerman	Dept. of Transportation	St. Petersburg, Fla.
F. W. Zander, Jr.	Florida Power Corp.	St. Petersburg, Fla.
E. Scott Boggs	Greiner Engineering	Tampa, Fla.
R. W. Afeld	General Telephone Co.	St. Petersburg, Fla.
A. W. Landers	Dept. of Transportation	Ft. Myers, Fla.
W. H. Anderson	Fla. Power & Light Co.	Sarasota, Fla.
Ken Brown	Tampa Electric Co.	Tampa, Fla.
E. T. Carlson, Jr.	Fla. Power & Light Co.	Sarasota, Fla.
J. W. Deeds	Fla. Power & Light Co.	Sarasota, Fla.
Glen Cock	Tampa Electric Co.	Tampa, Fla.
Gary L. Bowker	General Telephone Co.	Clearwater, Fla.
Jim Frankford	General Telephone Co.	Sarasota, Fla.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FIRM</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
Bob Foote	Winter Park Telephone	Winter Park, Fla.
W. J. Dickens	Fla. Power & Light Co.	Daytona Beach, Fla.
J. E. Crews	Florida Power Corp.	St. Petersburg, Fla.
H. M. Erwin, Jr.	Florida Power Corp.	St. Petersburg, Fla.
W. W. Vierday	Florida Power Corp.	St. Petersburg, Fla.
C. R. Wood	Clay Electric Coop.	Keystone Heights, Fla.
G. A. Reed	Clay Electric Coop.	Keystone Heights, Fla.
Canter C. Holley	Dept. of Transportation	Tallahassee, Fla.
Don Brant	City of Orlando	Orlando, Fla.
A. B. Crouse	Dept. of Transportation	Bartow, Fla.
M. K. Myers	Dept. of Transportation	Bartow, Fla.
C. C. Melton	Dept. of Transportation	Bartow, Fla.
K. D. Hood	Dept. of Transportation	Tallahassee, Fla.
W. L. Anderson	Dept. of Transportation	Bartow, Fla.
E. W. Jeter	Southern Bell	Jacksonville, Fla.
Ed Williams	Southern Bell	Miami, Fla.
W. L. Childs	Dept. of Transportation	Bartow, Fla.

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The February 1975 meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by the Chairman, Vic Gardner of Orlando Utilities Commission. There were self introductions of all persons present. Chairman Gardner announced that the Secretary "Kemp" Kempson was unable to attend this meeting due to illness. Those wishing him a speedy recovery may send a card to the attention of B. A. Kempson, Jr., Gulf Power Company, Pensacola, Florida. Chairman Gardner requested Vice-Chairman Bill Hopgood of Florida Power & Light Company to record the minutes of the meeting. Minutes of the November meeting were read by Chairman Gardner. After amending the word "reduced" to "increased" in Line 17, Page 4, and the word "committee" to "sub-committee" in Line 16, Page 5, the minutes were adopted.

-OLD BUSINESS-

Chairman Gardner then called on Mr. Ken Brown of Tampa Electric Company for a report from the Standing Committee. Mr. Brown reported that he attended the last American Right of Way Association Board Meeting at which their committee had expressed a willingness to have joint meetings. Our new bylaws would make this possible twice a year. Mr. Ed Williams of Southern Bell announced that the next American Right of Way Association meeting has been scheduled for May 8-9 in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Chairman Gardner stated that he would contact Mr. Williams in order to plan for a joint meeting since the above dates comply with our bylaws.

Chairman Gardner next called on the Plant Protection Subcommittee

Chairman, Paul Mundy of General Telephone Company. He stated that the status of the "One Number Call Program" remains unchanged since our last meeting. Mr. Mundy indicated an increased activity in the Miami area where John Sheldon of "Miss Utility" of Maryland had made a presentation on their existing One Number Call Program. Mr. Mundy called on Bob Foote of Winter Park Telephone Company to report on the One Number Call Program in the Winter Park area. Mr. Foote noted that on February 5, 1975 their group had met to draw guidelines and continue with their work. Chairman Gardner advised Mr. Foote that Mr. Guy Hill, Associated General Contractors, had called and expressed a great interest to participate and hopefully contribute to this program. Mr. Mundy noted that there is a remarkable interest by the industry in implementing a One Number Call Program. With the increasing interest of the Contractors Association, perhaps this program will become a reality. "Pop" Edwards of American Telephone & Telegraph Company stressed the need to have the various statewide committees working on the One Number Call Program to communicate with each other in order to standardize their operations and exchange ideas. Ken Brown mentioned the possibility of Federal Funds becoming available for this program and Mr. Mundy stated that he would check into this matter.

Chairman Gardner called on Paul Mundy for a report on the "Plant Facilities Subcommittee", also the subcommittee on Repeater Cabinets on the Department of Transportation Rights-of-Way. Mr. Mundy stated there was nothing further to report on the "One Number Call Program" and that their first meeting on Repeater Cabinets had been held at the last American Right of Way Association meeting in Orlando on December 5, 1974. All members were present. It was noted that this was a major concern to the industry throughout the State. The second subcommittee meeting was also held in Orlando on January 28, 1975, in order to prepare a slide presentation and program which is to be presented to the Department of Transportation in Tallahassee sometime during the first two weeks in March. All those needing to attend this meeting will be given sufficient notice.

Chairman Gardner then asked Mr. Mundy to briefly comment on the "Model Statute For The Prevention Of Excavation Damage To Underground Pipelines and Utilities". This statute was drafted by the Office of Pipeline Safety, Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C. for the purpose of preventing injury to persons and damage to property resulting from excavation damage to underground utilities. This statute is presently before the International Liaison Committee, of which Mr. Mundy is an active member, to be reviewed for recommendations. The Model Statute has also been sent to the Governors of each state for their individual recommendations with a request to be included in their legislative program. Mr. Mundy stated that the main reason why this was being mentioned was because of the resemblance of this Model

Statute to the 1974 House Bill #1772 which failed to pass in the 1974 session of the Florida Legislature; however, this bill is being resubmitted to the 1975 legislative session. During the 1974 session some discussion arose on House Bill #1772 with the comment that most utilities are closely following its progress. It is felt that the industry along with the Department of Transportation are extremely affected by the Bill. It was also stated that earlier objections by the Department of Transportation on several items in this Bill had been satisfied; therefore, it is the consensus that the new bill will have a good chance in passing the forthcoming legislative session. "Pop" Edwards pointed out an apparent discrepancy in the information stemming from the various County Liaison Committees in the interpretation of House Bill #1772. "Pop" suggested that the Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee do its utmost to exchange information with the local committees in order to insure that they all have the correct interpretation of the Bill.

Chairman Gardner regretfully noted that Mr. Verne Brown, due to a change in his company responsibilities, would no longer be able to attend future Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee meetings. This would leave two vacancies which are presently filled by Mr. Brown: Chairman of the Space Allocation Subcommittee, and Historian. Mr. Mundy was volunteered and accepted the duties of Chairman for the Space Allocation Subcommittee. After an unsuccessful attempt to find a volunteer, Chairman Gardner accepted the duties of Historian for the remaining length of his term. It was suggested that the duties of Historian then pass on to each incoming Chairman at the beginning of the term.

The meeting was adjourned for a 15 minute coffee break.

Chairman Gardner introduced the guest speaker, Mr. B. G. Morris, Deputy State Maintenance Engineer for Operations. Mr. Morris is a Registered Professional Engineer and serves under the State Maintenance Engineer, Mr. C. R. Miller. In addition to being responsible for supervising the processing of all permits through the Tallahassee Central Office, his department is also responsible for directing, guiding and developing policies for utility installations in Department of Transportation Rights of Way. A result of this function is the recently published Utility Accommodation Guide for which he accredits its success to the utility industry and Mr. Salley's Office in their joint effort and cooperation. Another responsibility recognized as having been overlooked in the past is the development of procedures for utility installations; this is an area which Mr. Morris feels the Department of Transportation should direct more of their attention. As an example, jacking and boring in the past has caused a number of conflicts within State rights-of-way. Mr. Morris stated that special attention will be directed to jacking and borings operations

by way of training their inspection personnel in what to look for in the field. Mr. Morris intends to improve the communications in and out of his office to insure that all policy making decisions are properly promulgated and clarified to all concerned. He stated that in a number of cases there is the need to establish a close relationship with the individual District Maintenance Engineers in order to pursue the coordination of various projects in local areas.

Mr. Morris then directed his talk to a subject which also concerns the Florida Utilities Coordinating Committee Repeater Cabinets Committee. At present, the Department of Transportation's policies limit the cabinet size to 6 to 8 cubic feet, also the spacing of all hardware on its rights-of-way. By means of a slide presentation, Mr. Morris showed a series of situations where the utility industry had violated these policies with the local Department of Transportation Engineer's permission. It appears that these violations are in an upswing, thus presenting an increasing hazard to the public's safety. Mr. Morris considers this a prime example of why his department needs to increase their efforts to insure a standardized interpretation of its policies or change permitting procedures to insure that all hardware is properly shown on the permit drawings. Mr. Morris conceded that in many instances it would be necessary at times that individual considerations be given on a case to case basis. Here again, this is something which can only be gained through good liaison between the local representatives.

Another area which Mr. Morris discussed was the present practice used in restoring pavement cuttings, shoulder replacement and the use of herbicides. There were a number of slides available showing the improper and proper ways of accomplishing these practices.

At this time, Mr. Morris opened the floor for questions and comments relative to his presentation. As a result of these questions, several points were brought up, as follows:

- a. The responsibility for the avoidance of any field utility conflicts belongs to the agency or company which proposes to construct a new facility within public, and hopefully private, right-of-ways. The new permittee shall be responsible for contacting existing occupants and Department of Transportation Maintenance Engineers for information concerning other facilities within the subject area.
- b. It is the responsibility of the permittee to construct its facilities in accordance with the permit plans.
- c. The short notice given to the utility industry on major maintenance projects was recognized as an area which required his attention. Mr. Morris stated that he would call it to the attention of his local representatives to hopefully increase the lead time for these projects.

- d. Mr. Morris was made aware of the increasing problems being created in making improvements within Department of Transportation rights-of-way (driveway, deceleration lanes, etc.) without contacting utility companies that occupy the rights-of-way. Mr. Morris indicated he would attempt to insure that everyone within a construction area is contacted by the permittee, perhaps by means of a stamp affixed to the permit.
- e. Mr. Morris indicated a marked shift in funding whereby more secondary road maintenance financing is becoming more and more the responsibility of the counties and their Secondary Roads Maintenance Programs.

Mr. Morris concluded his presentation by emphasizing once more the need for good communications with the local maintenance organizations in order to form a better working relationship and mutual understanding of each others problems.

Chairman Gardner then called on "Pop" Edwards to show a film entitled, "The Ground Beneath Us", which graphically illustrated the need for caution and clearance before excavation begins.

-NEW BUSINESS-

Mr. William Anderson, of the Department of Transportation, Bartow, Florida, announced that starting in April, Mr. Salley's office will be ready to distribute a new Project Scheduling Program on a quarterly basis to all major utilities in the State. This schedule will consist of a computerized program whereby each utility will be assigned a vendor number. When the vendor number is recalled in the computer, a print-out showing all projects affecting that particular utility will be produced. Included in this print-out will be the projected scheduling dates for the various Department of Transportation projects and will encompass a 10 to 12 month letting period. I am sure that the utility industry will welcome this information and look forward to this additional assistance to properly plan their work.

Chairman Gardner then thanked Mr. Vierday and Florida Power Corporation for sponsoring the meeting and luncheon. He stated the need for a sponsor for our forthcoming meeting and would appreciate any volunteer. There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was entertained, seconded and carried. The meeting then adjourned for lunch.

Respectfully submitted,



B. A. Kempson, Jr.

BAK, JR. :jt