

Bonneville County Utility Coordinating Council

Meeting – Tuesday, October 9th, 2018

Syringa Networks – 460 Park Avenue, Idaho Falls, ID 83404

Attendees

Corrin Warship, Syringa Networks

Douglas Brooks, Syringa Networks

Donna Bridges, IBSD

John Morgan, Idaho Falls Power

Candy Elliott, Intermountain Gas

Steve Heath, HLE

Called Meeting to Order Corrin Warship, President called meeting to order at 11:08 A.M.

Treasury Report – Doug Brooks, Treasurer

- Account Balance is \$603.13

Business/Information

- Main take away from meeting “Contractor carelessness” - Everyone has so many projects going on that contractors are understaffed, uneducated crews leading to mistakes and unsafe.

News from agencies

Syringa Networks

- Lincoln Rd has been easy on Syringa, only one minor damage to our soon to be abandoned line. Contractor broke our conduit but didn't damage our fiber.
- Down on Hitt Rd end of Lincoln Rd they've graded the driveways out and sloped them pretty steep.
- South Blvd roundabout completed, and cleanup is looking good. This project seemed to go well for all utilities involved.
- Downtown Development just received grant money to help take out and replace old trees in downtown.

HLE

- Looking at putting together a commercial development and INL park and ride Broadway and Belin Rd. Project projected for Spring 2019. 3 commercial locates in front and back will be parking lot.
- 9-acre commercial development behind Kohls Idaho Falls Pediatrics is going to start soon.

Intermountain Gas

- The gas company requires sand and flower dirt for their bedding as a P.U.C. requirement. They've had issues with contractors not using sand and flower dirt in their trench beds, even though it is clearly defined in the specs and have been advised to do so on numerous occasions.
- Out in Belmont, contractor broke and damage a bunch of Century Link boxes, Intermountain Gas went out to do locates and couldn't do them because the guy who did all the backfill in the subdivision ripped out all their markers.
- Brookside – contractor was digging without locates to fix broken conduit and hit gas line.
- New construction taking place out on University Blvd (INL) C3 and Cyber Corp - Homeland Security building. High security on construction site.

IBSD

- Lincoln Phase 2 letter has been received. Because of the issues with Phase 1 the utility companies have major concerns.
- IBSD have had problems getting contractors to bid because of lack of employees and overbooked.
- Projects have had to be split up in order to get the jobs done.

City of Idaho Falls

- Finishing up subdivisions. Everyone is rushing to get projects finished.
- Hard projects this year, plans not read
- Short on templates. contractors are behind and rushing – unsafely working.
- Transformer in Belin trailer court – Utility locating marked it and circled – contractor came in and scooped with backhoe bucket and snagged the primary direct buried cable at 13-14" on top of marks. Cable was really shallow, contractor skimmed it but didn't break it. Contractor got really really lucky.

Cable One

- Have had issues on Lincoln Rd with contractor pulling fiber right out the ground with trackhoe with marks visible. Took a lot of locations down. Total so far of 3 damages for Cable One along Lincoln Rd
- Century Link has been damaged at least a dozen times along Lincoln Rd.
- A lot of projects coming together all at once and their running out of equipment to put in field. There is so much backup with contractors because of all the work around the area.

Closing and Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 11:52 P.M. by Corrin Warship, President

Next meeting is set for Tuesday, November 13th, 2018
@ Syringa Networks – 460 Park Avenue, Idaho Falls, ID 83404