

TENNESSEE UNDERGROUND UTILITY DAMAGE PREVENTION BOARD Meeting on March 10, 2021

MINUTES

The board meeting of the Tennessee Underground Utility Damage Enforcement Board commenced at 10:00 a.m., via WebEx Telephonic Conferencing.

Board Members Present:

Rob Arnold

Earl Bolin

Doug Burgess

Wayne Hastings, Vice-Chairman

Bill Hollin

Eddie Hood

Kevin Kruchinski

Scott Niehaus

Bobby Pitts

Kevin Raley

Steve Raper

Kevin Tubberville, Chairman

Bill Turner

TPUC Staff Present:

Stacy Balthrop, Director of the Consumer Services Division Kelly Cashman-Grams, TPUC General Counsel Aaron Conklin, Legal Advisor to the TPUC staff Ryan McGehee, Legal Advisor to the TUUDEB Tim Schwarz, Director, Communications

Members of the Public Present:

Craig Ingram

I. Opening of Meeting and Roll Call

Chair Tubberville opened the meeting and all Board members were present. The Board considered the Minutes of the last meeting on November 4, 2020. The motion to approve the Minutes passed unanimously on a voice vote.

II. Program Update

The number of complaints received in the last two months and year to date were discussed in addition to the 2021 PHMSA grant submissions. Mr. Aaron Conklin provided a report of the ongoing enforcement and show-cause proceedings.

III. Finances, Scheduling, and Legislation

Mr. Chris Eaton sent out an email update on the current fiscal year. Mr. Tim Schwarz gave an update on the status of the house and senate bills.

IV. Update on Rules and Training Program by Tennessee 811

Mr. Conklin answered questions about the rules draft packets that were emailed to the board members. Mr. Bobby Pitts moved to continue with the proposed legislation and, after receiving a proper second, the motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. Mr. Turner reported to date that in 2021 23 individuals were trained and 477 individuals from 380 organizations have been trained since the inception of the program. Additionally, 98 individuals completed online training during the pandemic.

V. General Discussion and Topics for Next Meeting

Mr. Pitts moved to add a discussion of the cost of training and a penalty for cancellations to the next meeting agenda for the executive committee and possible further review by the board. Mr. Hollin seconded the motion and it passed by a voice vote. Mr. Raper moved to extend the provision of electronic training through August and after receiving a proper second by Mr. Pitts the motion passed unanimously on a voice vote. The election for the expiring executive committee terms will take place in May or August of 2021 dependent upon the status or enactment of pending legislation.

No member of the public sought to make comment during the public comment period.

The Board meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.