Wisconsin Damage Prevention Council

Minutes of the October 1, 2026 WI DPC Meeting

The meeting began with introductions. Mike Meyer, from Diggers Hotline, updated the group on the Legislative Subcommittee. He said the Subcommittee has met every other week and decided to pursue 4 legislative items in this initial attempt get getting the law changed. The 4 items are: Mandatory Positive Response, Mandatory White Lining, Enforcement, and Potholing.

The group then focused its discussions on how to form the leadership of the DPC, as well as how to divide the DPC into respective coalitions for determining leadership. Mike also brought up the idea of having someone in leadership who is impartial and can break the tie on any discussion which might be deadlocked. This may be necessary at certain points should legislative discussions hit a stalemate.

The group had many thoughts on who should be the impartial party. Some recommended Diggers Hotline, others spoke of specific individuals on the DPC, as well as potentially an outside person currently not on the DPC. No decision was made regarding that role.

Before leadership can specifically be decided, the group would need to have clearly defined coalitions. The initial recommendation of 2 coalitions, excavators/planners and utilities/locators, does not seem to provide adequate representation. Another idea was expressed that there should be 4 leadership/coalitions, with those being the 4, separate groups of: excavators, planners, locators, and utilities. The group then discussed more categories. Mike said the general categories he saw making up the DPC are: Excavators, Gas/Electric Utilities, Telecommunications, Municipal/Governmental entities, Contract Locators, Planners/Surveyors, and Other.

The DPC members asked Mike to take those categories and, using the DPC member list, place each member into one of those categories and send that list to the DPC members. The DPC could then use that as a starting point for forming coalitions and discussing leaders in each coalition. Mike sent the list shortly after the meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2026 at 2:00pm.