



NODPC Meeting

Wednesday, October 1st, 2025

09:30am to 11:00am

6363 Selig Drive, Independence

1. Introductions

- There were forty-two individuals in attendance.

2.) Meeting Minutes Approved

- The September meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with no revisions.

3.) Presentation: Andrew Cirata with United Rentals Inc.

- Andy is with Trench Safety out of United Rental's Richfield office.

- He has been working with trench safety for over twelve years. He is passionate about the safety training that he and United Rentals provides to the northern third of Ohio.

- Andy shared a video which highlighted Darby Patrick's buried alive story. He was trapped in a trench collapse for over fifteen hours. The incident occurred while laying new sewer lines. Darby was able to breathe despite being buried under twenty feet of dirt due to his face being next to the newly laid pipe. Darby was in the hospital for five and a half months.

- Andy passed out a United Rentals reference guide that provides information on OSHA requirements and best practices.

- He reviewed several types of equipment that are available, such as end shores, walkers, hydraulic vertical shores, and steel shielding solutions.

- United Rentals offers online training courses for trench and excavation safety.

4.) OHIO811 Updates

- In September, there were 158,503 notifications made to the center, which is 13.02% above last year.
- Year to date, there have been 1,284,607 notifications made to the center which is up 6.84% above last year.
- The fall excavator seminars are planned for the end of October.
 - Wadsworth and Sandusky are both at capacity.
 - Waldo is on Thursday, October 30th from 8am to 12pm at All Occasions Catering and Banquet.
 - St. Clarksville is on Friday, October 31st from 8am to 12pm at Undos.
- House bill 227 — The house is coming out of recess and will review. It will be introduced on the floor for a vote and is hopeful to go through. After the house, this will move through the senate. This bill will change the forty-eight hours to a two working day system. This has shown improvement of on time completion in other states, Roger Lipscomb said.
- NODPC members are encouraged to get involved with the coalition.

5.) Open Discussion

- The council Facebook page has been created and has gained traction. We plan to work with OHIO811 to have a “Twelve Days of Safe Digging” in December where we will giveaway OHIO811 branded items.
- April Safe Dig Event Ideas
 - We will create another sub-committee to focus on this and generate ideas.
- Ideas for December breakfast meeting caterer
 - The December breakfast meeting flyer was approved by the council. We will vote on catering options in November's meeting.
- Officer nominations
 - There were no new interested individuals for the officer role, but we will review and vote in November. Members who are interested will have until November to submit their nomination.
- The council agreed to continue to meet at the City of Independence recreation center but will also explore hosting virtually to reach a larger audience. It was discussed that there are contractors/municipalities who'd like to attend but cannot be due to the distance.

- Our annual sporting clay event at Hill 'n Dale in Medina will be on Friday, November 14th at 9am. The sign-in and safety moment will be at 830am. The registration link will be sent out to the council soon via e-mail. Registration is limited to thirty participants.

- We discussed the 1996 Telecomm act as well as Broadband Ohio with regards to municipalities and their right of ways for fiber optic installation. If a municipality has questions on their obligation to open their right of way, they should speak with Broadband Ohio. The current finding for fiber is private equity money and not yet federal grants.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, November 5th, 2025, at the City of Independence Recreation Center (Willow Room)