



# State of Utah

## UTAH SEISMIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Michael O. Leavitt  
Governor

Walter J. Arabasz  
Chairperson

Staff:  
Utah Geological Survey  
P.O. Box 146100  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-6100  
Phone (801) 537-3300  
FAX Line: (801) 537-3400

Utah Division of Comprehensive Emergency Management  
State Office Building, Room 1110  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114  
Phone (801) 538-3400  
FAX Line: (801) 538-3770

# Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting  
January 12, 2001

### Minutes

On January 12, 2001 a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was held at the State Office Building, Salt Lake City, Utah. The Chairman Walter Arabasz called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

#### Members Present:

-Rick Allis  
-Walter J. Arabasz  
-Jake Arslanian  
-Kerry Baum  
-Don Bush  
-Vanna Hunter  
-Peter W. McDonough  
-Matthias Mueller  
-Dave Nazare  
-Barry Smith  
-Anne vonWeller  
-Barry H. Welliver  
-Verdi White II

Director of Utah Geological Survey  
Chair/Seismic Safety Comm.-U of U Seismograph Stations  
American Public Works Association  
Association of Contingency Planners  
Utah House of Representatives  
Utah Insurance Department  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
Utah Division of Facilities Construction & Management  
Utah Department of Transportation  
Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect  
Utah League of Cities & Towns/Murray City  
Structural Engineers Association of Utah  
Utah Division of Emergency Management/DPS

#### Members Not Present:

Peter C. Knudson  
Vacant  
Randall G. Updike  
Suzanne Winters

Utah State Senate  
Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)  
U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)  
State Science Advisor, Governor's Office of Planning & Budget

#### CEM Staff Present:

-Bob Carey  
-Amisha Lester

Liaison, Operations & Plans Section, CEM  
Liaison, Operations & Plans Section, CEM





**UGS Staff Present:**

-Gary Christenson                      Applied Geology Section, Utah Geological Survey

**Guests Present/Committee Members:**

-Carl Eriksson	E & A Committee
-Verl Jensen	Association of Volunteer Emergency Response Teams
-Tricia Porter	Provo Emergency Management
-Donald Chris Springer	Association of Volunteer Emergency Response Teams
-Mike Stever	A & E Committee

➤ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW**.....

Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC) Chairman Walter Arabasz welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**.....

**Motion:** *Ann vonWeller, Utah League of Cities & Towns, made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on October 13, 2000. Dave Nazare seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

➤ **INFORMATION UPDATES**.....

Bob Carey, CEM, reported on the WSSPC Post-Earthquake Clearinghouse Workshop. The Clearinghouse will be held in Room B110 of the State Office Building on March 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. The USSC and CEM will be co-sponsors for the Clearinghouse. The second day will be followed by a tabletop exercise to help anticipate any problems in this plan that might arise during a real earthquake. Members of the Commission are welcome and urged to be involved. Please RSVP for this event, and indicate whether members plan to attend for either one or both days.

Gary Christenson, UGS, reported on the potential role of the USSC in a post-earthquake setting. The Commission is encouraged to work on upfront planning and prioritize for the future.

Gary also spoke on the USGS Intermountain West Workshop on Seismic Hazard Mapping and the Geologic Hazard Conference. The USGS Intermountain West Workshop is to be held March 28-30, 2001 on the University of Utah campus in Salt Lake City. The focus for this workshop will be on Seismic Hazard Maps. The Geologic Hazards of Utah Conference is to be held April 12-13, 2001 also in Salt Lake City. This Conference is being hosted by the Association of Engineering Geologist and the American Society of Civil Engineers local sections and co-sponsored by UGS and USSC. The focus will be methods of assessment and mitigation of geologic hazards.

Chris Springer, AVERT, spoke on the offer by AVERT (Association of Volunteer Emergency Response Teams) to assist the Commission. AVERT started 6 years ago and was organized originally by a citizen board to promote and maintain Community Emergency Response Team Programs. AVERT's offer to the Commission as a non-profit organization is that they can provide the Commission with an extensive network of information throughout the State. AVERT was encouraged to speak to Bob Carey regarding membership on the A & E Committee.

Barry Welliver, Structural Engineers Association of Utah, spoke on an update on building-code issues. The Structural Engineers Association of Utah's Seismic Committee for the last seven months has been reviewing the 2000 version of the IBC (International Building Code) for its suitability for adoption here in Utah. Adoption should be complete within a year.

➤ **DISCUSSION & DETAILED PLANNING OF COMMISSION INVOLVEMENT IN APRIL 2001 EARTHQUAKE/DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MONTH IN UTAH**.....

Mike Stever, Salt Lake City Emergency Manager, spoke on the April 2001 Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness Month. Nationally April is Earthquake Preparedness Month. The last two years the Commission has sponsored an activity within schools called Safe Surroundings and Earthquake Drills. And it has also offered a certificate to each school that has met specific standards of preparedness. The A & E Committee is interested in making this preparedness month an all county issue.

Mike gave a presentation with video clips and slides. The coordination of activities for the month of April will be turned over to the A & E Committee as an action item. The committee will present activities and advertise through the media. Publicity will be the key for involvement from the community.

**Motion:** *Walter made a motion that the Commission be committed to support both the planning and planned activities of emergency managers and other officials in implementing the April 2001 Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness Month in Utah. Also the Commission would like to task the Awareness & Education Committee to take a lead-planning role on behalf of the Commission and that the Commission make available to the A & E Committee an amount to \$1,000 for expenses. Peter W. McDonough seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

➤ **REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE**.....

Walter-spoke to the update of the Report to the Legislature. The draft of the report is 95 percent completed. Walter asked members of the Commission to take a look at the report and give any feedback within a week. Representative Bush will help arrange a presentation to an appropriate committee of the legislature when the report is completed.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**.....

**DATE:** Friday, April 27, 2001  
**TIME:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Weber Center  
Ogden, Utah

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**.....

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

