

# Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting  
January 14, 2000

## Minutes

On January 14, 2000, a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was held at the State Office Building Room 1112, Salt Lake City, Utah. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by the Chairman Walter Arabasz.

### **Members Present:**

-Walter J. Arabasz	Chair/Seismic Safety Comm.-U of U Seismograph Stations
-James S. Bailey	Allen and Bailey Engineers/Structural Engineers Assoc.
-Don Bush	Utah House of Representatives
-Danny Bauer	Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
-Kimm Harty	Acting Director of Utah Geological Survey
-Peter C. Knudson	Utah State Senate
-Peter W. McDonough	Questar/American Society of Civil Engineers
-Steve Pratt	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)
-Earl R. Morris	Utah Division of Emergency Management/DPS
-Matthias Mueller	Utah Division of Facilities Construction & Management
-Dave Nizare	Utah Department of Transportation
-Barry Smith	Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect
-Anne Vonweller	Utah League of Cities & Towns/Murray City

### **Members Not Present:**

Craig L. Dearden	Utah Department of Public Safety
Randall G. Updike	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)

### **CEM Staff Present:**

-Bob Carey	Liaison, Operations & Plans Section, CEM
-Amisha Stringfellow	Liaison, Operations & Plans Section, CEM

**UGS Staff Present:**

-Gary Christensen	Applied Geology Section, Utah Geological Survey
-Tim Madden	USSC Intern
-Barry Solomon	Applied Geology Section, Utah Geological Survey

**Guests Present/Committee Members:**

-Karla Barnes	Utah Insurance Department
-Carl H. Carpenter	Consulting Engineer
-Bob Davis	American Public Works Association
-Max Gregersen	Eng/Arch. Commission/Gregersen Structural Engineering
-Marv Halling	Utah State University
-Mike Stever	Salt Lake Emergency Management
-Del Swensen	Building Official, Salt Lake County
-Mei Mei Wang	Oregon Earthquake Commission
-Barry H. Welliver	Engineering & Architectural Committee

➤ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW**.....

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

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**.....

**Motion:** *Representative Don Bush made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on October 15, 1999. Earl Morris seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

➤ **HOW THE ASSOCIATION OF CONTINGENCY PLANNERS IS ADVANCING EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS IN UTAH**.....

Mike Stever, SLC Emergency Manager, spoke on how the Association of Contingency Planners (ACP) is advancing emergency preparedness in Utah. ACP is Utah chapter of a national organization, which consists of 100 members. The members are contingency and recovery planners in business for the private sector. By integrating the private sector contingency planning group and the government, mitigation efforts, preparedness endeavors, response and recovery have all become more successful. ACP played a big part in Y2K preparedness and their ideas still continue throughout the state of Utah. ACP meetings are held the second Thursday of every month and are scheduled to last 2 hours.

➤ **INFORMATION UPDATES**

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James Bailey and Barry Welliver, Structural Engineers Association of Utah (SEAU), reported on the status of existing-buildings initiative. The UBC Commission announced it's intention to adopt the Uniform Code for Existing Buildings (UCEB) 2000 statewide in January, 2001. A technical seminar will be held for engineers and building officials on this code during the month of February. SEAU is in the process of studying the technical provisions of this document. Publication for the UCEB has been delayed up to a year due to other complications. Draft documents will be used until the UCEB has been published.

**Motion:** *On the occasion of James W. Golden's retirement from the Utah Department of Transportation and from the Utah Seismic Safety Commission, Walter Arabsz moved to thank James, first, for his dedicated service to the commission since it's origin in 1994, including his efforts on the Lifelines and Infrastructure Standing Committee, and, second, for his prior service from 1991 to 1994 to the Utah Earthquake Advisory Board, the predecessor of this commission. Earl Morris seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

Bob Carey, CEM, spoke on behalf of the April USSC meeting to be held at BYU in Provo. BYU is going under a lot of new construction and was thought to be beneficial to look at what they have been doing seismically in design. Lunch will be provided and a tour will also take place.

**Motion:** *Earl Morris made a motion to move the April USSC meeting to the BYU campus. James Bailey seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

Bob-Also reported on the HAZUS Data User Group. CEM sponsored training on HAZUS for local officials, public works officials, and other state agencies. A total of 21 people have been trained thus far. Most agencies are excited about HAZUS and are willing to receive and give data. HAZUS is able to model earthquakes and in a matter of 10 minutes can estimate the total amount of damage expected from the quake. HAZUS may also be used for Olympic Venues.

Bob-The hiring of the USSC special staff assistant to produce 1996-99 report to Legislature is now complete. Tim Madden, a former PIO from UGS, is currently working on the report. The commission has given \$6,000 towards the effort and the Earthquake Program from CEM has given \$8,000.

Walter Arabsz reported on the seismic instrumentation initiatives. The University of Utah Seismograph Station (UUSS) will be receiving seed money during FY 2000 under a cooperative project with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to implement a pilot system for real-time earthquake monitoring and automated alert. The geographic focus of the Utah project will be (1) the Ogden-Salt Lake City-Provo urban corridor and (2) the Olympic Venues.

➤ **LEGISLATIVE BILL TO REVISE STATUTORY LANGUAGE GOVERNING THE UTAH SEISMIC SAFETY COMMISSION**\_\_\_\_\_

Walter Arabsz reported on the Utah Seismic Safety Commission Act Amendments. Both Representative Bush and Senator Knudson are to sponsor legislation to amend the USSC Act, revising Commission membership; enabling the acceptance of contributions, grants, or other funding; and designated unspent funds up to \$10,000 as nonlapsing. The Act has been named House Bill #200.

**Motion:** *Earl Morris made a motion to support House Bill #200. Barry Smith seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the commission.*

➤ **REPORT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS FOR GEOSCIENCE INFORMATION**\_\_\_\_\_

Gary Christenson, UGS, reported on the local government needs for geoscience information. The Utah Seismic Safety Commission Geosciences (USSC GC) and Utah Geological Survey (UGS) established the Guidelines Advisory Committee (GAC) to advise them on local government needs for geoscience information and training to reduce the risks from earthquakes and other geological hazards. The GAC held four meetings from April-October 1999 to determine what products and services are needed, who should provide them, and what resources are required. The final meeting addressed possible roles of local government insurers (Utah Risk Management Mutual Agency [URMMA] and Utah Local Government Trust [ULGT]) in encouraging risk reduction. Daryl Berlin of URMMA attended, but ULGT was unable to send representation. The local government groups identified as having specific needs for geoscience information are: 1) planners, 2) building officials, and 3) elected officials and administrators.

➤ **AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS' TECHNICAL COUNCIL ON LIFELINE EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING**\_\_\_\_\_

Peter McDonough, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), spoke to the Technical Council on Lifeline Earthquake Engineering (TCLEE). ASCE is the oldest of the engineering professional society here in the U.S. There are over 100,000 members and in Utah alone there are over 1,000 active members. Different sections of ASCE meet on a monthly basis. TCLEE, being on of these sections, was formed in 1974. The stated goals of TCLEE is to elevate state of the art and practice of Lifeline Earthquake Engineering through several different endeavors such as, participating in the development of guidelines and standards regarding seismic design and construction of lifelines. ASCE holds a major conference every 4 years. The last conference was held in Seattle and was gratified into an international conference. Since 1977 ASCE has published 27 books and significant reports.

➤ **POST-EARTHQUAKE STUDY OF THE MAGNITUDE 7.6 TAIWAN EARTHQUAKE OF SEPTEMBER 1999 AND ITS RELEVANCE TO SEISMIC ISSUES IN UTAH**\_\_\_\_\_

Dr. Marv Halling, Utah State University, gave a presentation on the post-earthquake study of the magnitude 7.6 earthquake of September 1999 and its relevance to seismic issues in Utah. The damage was estimated to be \$10 billion dollars and the death toll was over 10,300.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**\_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** Friday, April 7, 2000  
**TIME:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Brigham Young University  
Provo, Utah

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**\_\_\_\_\_

**Motion:** *Earl Morris made a motion to adjourn. Barry Smith seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.*