

Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting
July 13, 2001

Minutes

On July 13, 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 10:00 a.m.

Members Present:

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| -Rick Allis | Utah Geological Survey |
| -Walter J. Arabasz | Chair/Seismic Safety Comm.-U of U Seismograph Stations |
| -Kerry Baum | Association of Contingency Planners |
| -Scott Behunin | Utah Division of Emergency Management/DPS |
| -Doug Bausch | Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio) |
| -Don Bush | Utah House of Representatives |
| -Peter W. McDonough | American Society of Civil Engineers |
| -Dave Nazare | Utah Department of Transportation |
| -Anne vonWeller | Utah League of Cities & Towns/Murray City |
| -Barry H. Welliver | Structural Engineers Association of Utah |

Members Not Present:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Jake Arslanian | American Public Works Association |
| Vanna Hunter | Utah Insurance Department |
| Peter C. Knudson | Utah State Senate |
| Matthias Mueller | Utah Division of Facilities Construction & Management |
| Barry Smith | Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect |
| Randall G. Updike | U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio) |
| Suzanne Winters | State Science Advisor, Governor's Office of Planning & Budget |

CEM Staff Present:

| | |
|----------------|---|
| -Bob Carey | Operations & Natural Hazards Section, CEM |
| -Amisha Lester | Operations & Natural Hazards Section, CEM |
| -Mike Kuehn | Deputy Director, CEM |

UGS Staff Present:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| -Frank Ashland | Applied Geology Section, Utah Geological Survey |
| -Gary Christenson | Applied Geology Section, Utah Geological Survey |

Guests Present/Committee Members:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| -Ronald Boulter | University of Utah |
| -David Fitzsimmons | AIA |
| -Julie Jensen | Wells Fargo |
| -Brian Law | Davis Co. Emergency Management |
| -Grant Miller | ACP/Wells Fargo |
| -Tricia Porter | Provo City Emergency Management |

➤ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW**.....

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

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**.....

Motion: *Peter McDonough, American Society of Civil Engineers, made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on April 27, 2001. Scott Behunin seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

➤ **INFORMATION UPDATES**.....

Barry H. Welliver, Structural Engineers Association of Utah, spoke on the “existing buildings” initiative. The Structural Engineers Association has been working with the Uniform Building Code Commission to establish a Special Studies Committee through the Legislature. This studies group has been put on hold for the moment.

Anne vonWeller, Utah League of Cities & Towns/Murray City, reported on the status of the adoption of the International Building Code and its seismic revisions. The effective date of implementation is January 1, 2002.

Anne also reported on the post-earthquake survivability of essential-service buildings. Anne vonWeller, Barry Welliver, and Walter Arabasz made a presentation to the Utah League of Cities and Towns in June regarding this issue. This issue will have to be revisited at a later date due to disinterest.

Walter Arabasz, reported on the June 15th stakeholder’s/user’s meeting for Utah’s new urban strong-motion network. The purpose of the meeting was to convey information on new infrastructure that’s evolved in Utah for strong-motion monitoring and rapid post-earthquake alert. For further information on strong-motion monitoring go to www.quake.utah.edu. The second purpose of this meeting was to describe soon-to-be-available information products relating to rapid earthquake notification and also to organizing an advisory committee as part of the management structure for the Advanced National Seismic System.

Francis Ashland, UGS, reported on the status of the Student Research Grant Program. \$1000 has been set aside by the USSC for this grant. Francis encourages all Commission members to contact professional organizations to help raise money for this grant. The announcement regarding this grant will be sent out late this summer on the UGS website and to all school districts. A panel will be reviewing applications this fall, then the grant will be awarded properly.

Francis provided a preliminary budget report. At the end of the fiscal year the Commission had around \$2000 in the budget. The Commission will start the fiscal year with around \$6000 in the budget.

Bob Carey, CEM, reported on the Western Seismic Safety Policy Council (WSSPC). The Annual WSSPC Conference is to be held in Sacramento in October 21-23, 2001. Anyone interested in attending the conference can find additional information at www.wsspc.org.

➤ **ANNUAL ELECTION OF CHAIR**_____

Motion: *Walter Arabasz made a motion for the Commission to nominate and appoint a Vice-Chair for the two-fold purpose, first, of assisting the Chair in handling the responsibilities of the Commission chairmanship and, second, to enlarge the active leadership of the Commission. Anne vonWeller seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

Representative Don Bush agreed to direct the nomination and election of a new Chair and Vice-Chair for the Commission. Barry Welliver and Peter McDonough were nominated for the position of Chair and each spoke on their vision for the future of the Commission.

Secret ballots were marked and counted and Peter McDonough was elected as Chair for the Commission.

Motion: *Anne vonWeller made a motion to approve Barry Welliver as the Vice-Chair for the Commission by acclamation. Walter seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.*

➤ **MAINTENANCE OF COMMISSION WEB SITE**_____

Bob Carey, CEM, spoke on the maintenance of the Commission web site. Maintenance of the web site has been put on hold due to funding, lack of time, and a person to maintain this web site. Barry Welliver offered to explore the feasibility of having his staff maintain the web site.

Motion: *Walter Arabasz made a motion for the Commission to allocate up to \$2000 for Barry Welliver to maintain the USSC web site. Rick Allis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

➤ **COMMISSION PARTNERSHIP WITH HAZUS**_____

Bob Carey, CEM, spoke on the Commission's partnership with HAZUS Data User's Group. FEMA has given \$10,000 to work on further developing the HAZUS capabilities. A web site will be created with Automated Geographic Reference Center (AGRC) for information on the data user's group. They also want to perform and develop training with the HAZUS software. Bob emphasized the need for HAZUS results to reflect specific input data for Salt Lake and Davis Counties rather than national default data. A partnership between the Commission and the HAZUS Data User's group would facilitate access to the most up-to-date and accurate HAZUS data. They want to reflect data given for Salt Lake County and Davis County. Currently, only three people are working on collecting and compiling the data.

➤ **STATUS REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**_____

Each standing committee chair gave a report on their updates and progress on fact sheets and brochures. Instructions on the breakout groups for the working lunch followed. Each committee discussed their action plans for tackling "Priorities for the Future" during the lunch hour.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**_____

DATE: Friday, October 12, 2001
TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
PLACE: Room 5112, State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**_____

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 a.m.