

Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting
July 12, 2002

Minutes

On July 12, 2002 a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was held at the State Office Building, Salt Lake City, Utah. The Chairman Pete McDonough called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

-Rick Allis	Utah Geological Survey
-Walter J. Arabasz	U of U Seismograph Stations
-Scott Behunin	Utah Division of Emergency Services/DPS
-Kerry Baum	Association of Contingency Planners
-Don E. Bush	Utah House of Representatives
-Cathy Howick	Utah Insurance Department
-Michael Keene	State Science Advisor, Governor's Office of Planning & Budget
-Peter C. Knudson	Utah State Senate
-Peter W. McDonough	Chair, American Society of Civil Engineers
-Matthias Mueller	Utah Division of Facilities Construction & Management
-Dave Nazare	Utah Department of Transportation
-Barry Smith	Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect
-Anne vonWeller	Utah League of Cities & Towns/Murray City
-Barry H. Welliver	Vice-Chair, Structural Engineers Association of Utah

Members Not Present:

Jake Arslanian	American Public Works Association
Doug Bausch	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)
Randall G. Updike	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)

CEM Staff Present:

-Bob Carey	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DES
-Kim Hamlet	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DES
-Amisha Lester	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DES

UGS Staff Present:

-Francis Ashland Applied Geology Section, Utah Geological Survey
-Gary Christenson Applied Geology Section, Utah Geological Survey

Guests Present/Committee Members:

-John Michaelson Tooele Co. Emergency Management
-Sue Nava UUSS
-Kris Pankow UUSS
-Jim Pechmann UUSS

➤ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW**.....

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

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**.....

Peter McDonough asked for any corrections and comments to the minutes.

Motion: *Peter McDonough asked for a vote to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on April 5, 2002. With a unanimous vote the minutes were passed.*

➤ **ANNUAL ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR**.....

Peter McDonough asked for any nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair. Walter Arabasz made a nomination to vote Barry Welliver as Chair and Ann vonWeller as Vice-Chair.

Motion: *Barry Welliver was nominated to be Chair of the Seismic Safety Commission and Ann vonWeller as Vice-Chair by acclamation. The vote was placed and unanimously passed.*

Both Barry Welliver and Ann vonWeller spoke on their take and vision for the future of the Commission. They both agree to keep the Commission on track to follow through the sunset in 2 years.

➤ **INFORMATION AND UPDATE ITEMS**.....

Bob Carey spoke on the funding for the grant research program. Natural Resources is hoping to roll the funding over to Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Services before next legislature. Because of availability and distribution of funds, DES is the proper distributor.

Francis Ashland spoke on the preliminary budget report. For the fiscal year of 2003 budget consists of \$12,800, of which \$6000 is dedicated to the research grant program, leaving \$6800 for spending.

Walter Arabasz suggested that the Commission provide funding for the Chair of the Commission to attend the Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC) conference held in September of the this year.

Motion: *Walter Arabasz made a motion for the USSC to provide funding for Barry Welliver's travel expenses for the WSSPC Conference held in September of 2002. Peter McDonough seconded and the motion was unanimously carried.*

Ann vonWeller spoke on the adoption of certain codes for rehabilitation. The Uniform Building Codes Commission (UBCC) has now adopted certain codes to be approved for use for rehabilitation for seismic upgrade. It has passed and now the Structural Engineers Association of Utah (SEAU) has compiled a first draft of a proposal to take to the UBCC naming some codes the SEAU has expressed to be appropriate for seismic upgrade.

➤ **A HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF USSC** _____

Walter Arabasz gave a presentation on the historical background of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission.

➤ **DISCUSSION OF USSC** _____

The Commission and it's guests had an open discussion of the future of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission. The major topic was of the sunset of the Commission and how to work past that. An ADHOC committee is to be formed before the next Commission meeting consisting of Barry Welliver, Scott Behunin, and Walter Arabasz. From this ADHOC committee, the USSC will then push to give a report to the Caucus for the Senate and House side during the next legislative session. The report is to be brief, consisting of the vision and outlook for the Commission and the terms of the critical nature due to seismic concerns.

Also, the Specific Editions of the Uniform Building Standard was major topic. The Commission feels it best to endorse the proposed rule change of R156-56-701 of the Uniform Building Standards.

Motion: *Barry Welliver made a motion to endorse the recommendation of the proposed rule change of R156-56-701 under the Uniform Building Standards for the Uniform Building Codes Commission and the pledge of continuing partnership on the existing buildings initiative. Walter Arabasz seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.*

Barry Welliver has asked the USSC Standing Committees to be prepared next meeting to pull out agenda items and report on each.

➤ **OTHER ITEMS**_____

Motion: Walter Arabasz made a motion for the Commission to give a formal thanks to Peter McDonough for his service to the Commission this past year. Barry Welliver seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.

➤ **SAFE-T-PROOF**_____

Michael Essrig, Safe-T-Proof, gave a quick introduction of his disaster preparedness company and his Quake Cottage for the Commission to view.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**_____

DATE: Friday, October 25, 2002
TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
PLACE: State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**_____

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.