

Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting
January 17, 2003

Minutes

On January 17, 2003 a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was held at the State Office Building, Salt Lake City, Utah. The Chairman Barry Welliver called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

-Walter J. Arabasz	U of U Seismograph Stations
-Don E. Bush	Utah House of Representatives
-Michael Keene	State Science Advisor, Governor's Office of Planning & Budget
-Peter W. McDonough	American Society of Civil Engineers
-Matthias Mueller	Utah Division of Facilities Construction & Management
-Barry Smith	Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect
-Anne vonWeller	Vice-Chair, Utah League of Cities & Towns/Murray City
-Barry H. Welliver	Chair, Structural Engineers Association of Utah

Members Not Present:

Rick Allis	Utah Geological Survey
Jake Arslanian	American Public Works Association
Kerry Baum (Excused)	Association of Contingency Planners
Doug Bausch	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)
Scott Behunin (Excused)	Utah Division of Emergency Services/DPS
Cathy Howick	Utah Insurance Department
Peter C. Knudson	Utah State Senate
Mark Petersen	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)
Dave Nazare	Utah Department of Transportation

CEM Staff Present:

-Bob Carey	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DES
-Amisha Lester	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DES
-Capt. Keith Squires	Deputy Director, DES

UGS Staff Present:

-Francis Ashland	Geologic Hazards Program, Utah Geological Survey
-Gary Christenson	Geologic Hazards Program, Utah Geological Survey

Guests Present/Committee Members:

-Carl Eriksson	Park City Municipal Corp.
-Garry R. Flake	LDS Church Emergency Response
-Craig P. Knight	LDS Church Emergency Response
-Brian Law	Davis Co. Sheriff's Office
-Kris Pankow	Seismograph Stations
-Jim Pechmann	Seismograph Stations
-Joergen Philz	Geoscience Committee

➤ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW**.....

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

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**.....

Barry Welliver asked for any corrections and comments to the minutes.

Motion: *Ann vonWeller made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections from the last meeting held on October 25, 2002. Barry Smith seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

➤ **EARTHQUAKES IN UTAH FOLLOWING THE M7.9 NOVEMBER 3, 2002, ALASKA EARTHQUAKE**

Kris Pankow, University of Utah Seismograph Stations, gave a presentation on earthquakes in Utah following the M7.9 earthquake in Alaska on November 3, 2002.

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

Barry Welliver, Chair, and Ann vonWeller, Vice-Chair, spoke on the Memorandum of Understanding between The Structural Engineers Association of Utah and The Utah Seismic Safety Commission. The memorandum is an agreement between non-profit organizations to pursue like interests. It has been approved by the board of directors and would like the approval of the USSC.

Motion: *Barry Welliver moves to enter into a MOU with the Structural Engineers of Utah. Barry Smith seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

Barry Welliver spoke on the support from the Commission for the Capitol Preservation Project. Barry Welliver and Barry Smith are currently working on a letter of endorsement. Representative Bush felt that it would be in the best interest of the Commission to send an email and create a short presentation for the Legislature to show our support of the capitol preservation project.

Barry also spoke to the USSC support for the UBCC's (Utah Building Codes Commission) direction and efforts. Barry attended the November 15th, 2002 Uniform Building Code Commission meeting and delivered the letter of endorsement from the USSC to Ron Ivie supporting the proposed rule change R156-56-701 regarding inclusion of specific codes to be applied to existing buildings.

Barry-spoke to the article about a report done by VCBO Architects for the Ogden school district on the need to replace its aging and dangerous schools. Barry made mention of another article in the Desert news titled "Seismic worries rattle schools" (Nov. 9, 2002). This was on the heels of the Italian earthquake of which killed 26 school children. Barry made note of the attention being paid to school design and construction. Barry asked the E&A subcommittee to take up this issue.

Ann vonWeller reported that this will be her last USSC meeting. Ann has suggested Rick Allis to replace her on the Commission. Barry will send emails to the Commission for other suggestions on replacements.

➤ **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS** _____

Gary Christenson, UGS, gave a brief report on the Geoscience Committee. Joergen Philz is the new Chair for this committee. The Geoscience Committee has just recently published a Utah Earthquake Ground-Shaking Map brochure. They are hoping for this to soon be available on the USSC website.

Bob Carey, DES, gave a report on the Education and Awareness Committee updates. April Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness Month Declaration is to be signed on March 19, 2003. Earthquake drills will be held statewide throughout all the schools on the first Wednesday in April. The Schools Research Grant Program will be geared towards grades 7-12. A flyer is to be drafted and sent with in the next couple of weeks to all the science teachers in the state.

➤ **UPDATING THE STRATEGIC PLAN/FURTHER DISCUSSION OF THE SUNSET OF THE COMMISSION** _____

The Commission had an open discussion on the update of the strategic plan and the sunset of the Commission. For the update of the strategic plan, Barry asks for each Commissioner to take a moment to write down in your own words what your vision presently of the Commission is and should be. The update of the strategic plan has been sent to the California Seismic Safety Commission for their review.

In line with the sunset of the Commission, an ADHOC Committee will be formed to specifically work on the sunset provisions. Barry was hoping this would take place over the next several USSC meetings. After a brief discussion, the Commission then decided to take the sunset issue to this years legislative session. Representative Bush agrees to take this issue to the legislature. A brief description and bullet items of the direction and vision of the Commission will be taken to the legislature.

Each Commissioner and standing committees has been tasked to bring personal thoughts and a vision of what the Commission should be working towards in the future for the next USSC meeting.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**_____

DATE: Friday, April 11, 2003
TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
PLACE: Room B110
State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**_____

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.