

# Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting  
April 11, 2003

## Minutes

On April 11, 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
-Kerry Baum	Association of Contingency Planners
-Scott Behunin	Utah Division of Emergency Services/DPS
-Don E. Bush	Utah House of Representatives
-Carl Eriksson	Utah League of Cities & Towns
-Peter W. McDonough	American Society of Civil Engineers
-Matthias Mueller	Utah Division of Facilities Construction & Management
-Barry H. Welliver	Chair, Structural Engineers Association of Utah

### **Members Not Present:**

Rick Allis	Utah Geological Survey
Jake Arslanian	American Public Works Association
Doug Bausch	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)
Cathy Howick	Utah Insurance Department
Michael Keene	State Science Advisor, Governor's Office of Planning & Budget
Peter C. Knudson	Utah State Senate
Mark Petersen	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)
Dave Nazare (Excused)	Utah Department of Transportation
Barry Smith (Excused)	Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect

### **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:**

-Darlene Batatian                      SL County Planning/Public Works  
-Heather Givenwall                      State of Utah/For Michael Keene  
-Ken Kraudy                              Sandy City  
-Getty Pollard                              Safe-T-Proof Utah  
-Mike Stever                                SLC Emergency Management  
-Jane Zhang                                USOE

➤ **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:** *Peter McDonough made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on January 17, 2003. Walter Arabasz seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

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

Barry Welliver, Chair, spoke to the Structural Engineers Association of Utah (SEAU) Emergency Response Committee. SEAU has formed a new committee dedicated to organizing and training Structural Engineers for emergency response.

Barry-The USSC sunset law no longer exists for the Commission. The legislature has resolved a number of sunset laws for several different commissions.

Barry-USSC peer evaluation of USSC Strategic Plan by CSSC. Fred Turner gave some suggestions for the Commission, which will be discussed at later date.

Gary Christenson, UGS, reported on WSSPC updates. Rick Allis has been appointed as a new member to the WSSPC Board. He has taken the place of the Colorado Geological Survey Director, who has resigned. Next WSSPC meeting will be held September 21-24, 2003, in Portland, OR. The main focus for this years conference will be Risk Communication. Nominations for this years awards are due by May 16, 2003. USSC would like to nominate several different groups for the awards. An email will circulate through the staff for any recommendations on possible nominations by USSC.

Gary-Update on the USGS/UGS/USSC issues. USGS has established several working groups to create on an overall plan of geoscience investigations over the next 5 to 10 years along the wasatch front. These working groups are currently developing a plan for the next generation of ground-shaking hazard maps and next generation of liquefaction hazard maps. USGS would like to have these plans officially adopted by the state as the state plan. The Commission was involved in a workshop on these issues and will help endorse these issues.

**Motion:** *Walter Arabasz made a motion that whereas the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was a workshop for developing the next generation of ground-shaking hazard maps and whereas the majority of the Commission's Geoscience Standing Committee and members of the Utah Ground-Shaking Working Group and the Utah Liquefaction Group and whereas the products to be created are greatly needed in Utah for improving earthquake safety. Walter moves that the Commission endorse the recommendation of these working groups are representing the informed view and desire objective of the Commission. Carl Eriksson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

Walter Arabasz reported on the letter that was sent to several different people asking for endorsement and support of the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS). The Commission is asking for support and funding to be higher than 2.9 Million. Governor Leavitt has also written to Utah's Congressional Delegation asking for higher pay on the ANSS funding.

Barry spoke on an updated list of the Commission and it's interested parties and communities. An information packet is to be published and distributed among the Commissioners and it's attendees to include Commissioners and standing committees addresses and numbers.

Bob Carey spoke on the Student Research Grant Program. 750 flyers were sent out to science teachers throughout Utah regarding the grant program. The standing committee received 2 proposals, one from Ogden High School and one from South Summit Middle School. Each school was awarded the full amount requested. Next fall the committee is expecting a greater interest in the grant.

Bob-spoke on April Earthquake/Disaster Preparedness Month. Statewide Earthquake Drill Day was held the first Wednesday of April for all Utah schools. There will be no preparedness fairs this year due to lack of participation by the general public. Next year we are hoping host the preparedness fair where a built in audience will be provided. Governor Leavitt signed the proclamation for Disaster Preparedness Month on March 19, 2003.

Barry welcomed our newest commissioner, Carl Eriksson, to the Seismic Safety Commission.

Getty Pollard, Safe-T-Proof Utah, gave a brief overview of recent projects they have completed and proposed projects for businesses and government along the wasatch front.

➤ **DISCUSSION: FUTURE VISION OF THE COMMISSION**\_\_\_\_\_

An open discussion was held on the future vision of the Commission. Main topics are as follows:

- USSC should be a catalyst to give its support and endorsement to other agencies, groups and organizations. And also should seek support and endorsement from outside agencies, groups and organization.
- USSC should be a mouthpiece to enhance the level of information to the public and its awareness of earthquake safety.
- USSC should give awards and recognition to other agencies, groups and organizations for their level of involvement within the earthquake awareness community.
- USSC should help fund programs that are currently working on earthquake preparedness.
- Commissioners need to be more involved in Commission activities.
- USSC needs to enhance the level of information given to the public. An information packet should be available for those in need.
- Enlarge the involvement from the communities. USSC should think about an annual conference for other agencies, groups, organizations and the public on earthquake awareness.

➤ **ANNUAL ELECTION OF CHAIR DISCUSSION**\_\_\_\_\_

The annual election of chair will be held at the next USSC meeting. Barry is encouraging all those that would like to get involved to do so. Co-Chair will be elected at the next meeting as well. Peter McDonough will be filling in as the adhoc Co-Chair for the next several months.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**\_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** Friday, July 11, 2003  
**TIME:** 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** Room B110  
State Office Building  
Salt Lake City, Utah

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**\_\_\_\_\_

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