

Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting
July 9th, 2004

Minutes

On July 9, 2004 a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was held at the State Office Building, Salt Lake City, Utah. Chairman Barry Welliver 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
-Doug Bausch	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)
-Kerry Baum	Association of Contingency Planners
-Don E. Bush	Utah House of Representatives
-Matt Cassel	American Public Works Association
-Carl Eriksson	Utah League of Cities & Towns
-Michael Keene	Governor's Office of Planning & Budget
-Peter W. McDonough	American Society of Civil Engineers
-Matthias Mueller	Utah Division of Facilities Construction & Management
-Dave Nazare	Utah Department of Transportation
-Nannette Rolfe	Utah Division of Emergency Services/DPS
-Barry Smith	Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect
-Barry H. Welliver	Chair, Structural Engineers Association of Utah

Members Not Present:

Cathy Howick	Utah Insurance Department (Excused)
Peter C. Knudson	Utah State Senate
Mark Petersen	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)

CEM Staff Present:

-Bob Carey	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DES
-Amisha Lester	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DES
-John Rokich	Tech/Haz Section, DES

UGS Staff Present:

-Gary Christenson	Geologic Hazards Program, Utah Geological Survey
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Guests Present/Committee Members:

-Relu Burlacu	U of U Seismograph Stations
-Jim Higbee	UDOT
-Jane Z. Zhang	State Office of Education

➤ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW**

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

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Barry Welliver asked for any corrections and comments to the minutes. Barry noted that the date on the header needed to be changed to the correct date.

Motion: *Carl Eriksson made a motion to approve the minutes with the noted change from the last meeting held on April 2, 2004. Kerry Baum seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

➤ **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIRS**

Representative Don Bush accepted nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair of Commission.

Motion: *Walter Arabasz nominated Barry Welliver to remain as the Chair for the coming year. Carl Eriksson seconded the motion and the motion was passed unanimously with Barry recusing himself from the vote.*

Motion: *Walter Arabasz nominated Rick Allis and Peter McDonough to remain as Vice-Chairs to the Commission. Nannette Rolfe seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.*

➤ **INFORMATION AND UPDATE ITEMS**

All WSSPC nominations have been placed. Winners should be announced by the end of the month. Nominations are to include Metro Water District, the Student Research Grant Program, the Ground Shaking brochure and the Parapet brochure.

Motion: *Walter Arabasz made a motion that the Commission pay for all travel expenses for Barry Welliver to attend the WSSPC conference in September. Rick Allis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

Gary Christenson gave a brief report on the WSSPC BRPSHS II that was held in Reno in May. Several new policies were discussed during the conference. Supporting clearinghouses, developing technical working groups, defining active faults, and supporting USGS ANSS and external research programs are some of the policies being sent to the St. Louis National Earthquake Conference for consideration and possible adoption.

Walter Arabasz discussed the status of ANSS funding efforts. In May 2004, ANSS activists succeeded in getting 29 House Members to sign a "Dear Colleague" letter to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies (<http://www.seis.utah.edu/anSS/outcome2004ltr.shtml>) urging a funding level of at least \$10 million for ANSS in FY05. (The President's budget request was for \$4.4 million.) In response, in a difficult budget year, House appropriators included an increase of \$1,350,000 for ANSS in the House FY05 appropriations bill released in June. The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior completed their counterpart mark-up of the FY05 budget soon thereafter, but the subcommittee's report hasn't been released yet. The Senate's budget numbers likely won't be known till after Labor Day.

Dave Nazare gave a brief report on the UDOT retrofit policy. AASHTO Bridge Code Subcommittee has been coordinated to include representatives from the DOT's of 50 states. The committee discusses seismic provisions, updating seismic acceleration maps, technical differences between eastern and western states and changes and updates.

Barry Welliver, Walter Arabasz and Mathias Mueller will be presenting to the State Building Board on July 14th, 2004. The Building Board will be identifying priority building projects within the state. The Commission offered to assist the Building Board on seismic issues relating to building projects. Those interested in presenting, please contact Barry Welliver.

➤ **SELECTION OF FY05 STRATEGIC ACTIONS**

The Commission held a discussion on FY2005 Strategic Actions. An action plan and priorities for the coming year were handed out to all commissioners. Each Commissioner was encouraged to identify an action of interest and work with a committee to achieve it. A motion was placed to allow funding for several Commissioners to attend the Nevada Seismic Commission meeting held in Reno, Nevada on August 4, 2004.

Motion: *Rick Allis made a motion to allow funding for several Commissioners to attend the Nevada Seismic Commission meeting held in Reno, Nevada on August 4, 2004. Barry Smith seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.*

➤ **NEXT MEETING**

DATE: Friday, October 22, 2004
TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
PLACE: Emergency Operations Center
State Office Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 p.m.; the 10th Anniversary Celebration began at 11:30 a.m.