

# Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting  
January 14, 2005

## Minutes

On January 16, 2005 a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was held at the East State Office Building Conference Room, 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                          |
| -Kerry Baum        | Association of Contingency Planners                  |
| -Matt Cassel       | American Public Works Association                    |
| -Carl Eriksson     | Utah League of Cities & Towns                        |
| -Matthias Mueller  | Utah Division of Facilities Const. & Management      |
| -Barry Smith       | Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architect |
| -Barry H. Welliver | Chair, Structural Engineers Association of Utah      |

### **Members Not Present:**

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Doug Bausch        | Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)        |
| Cathy Howick       | Utah Insurance Department                               |
| Todd Jensen        | Utah Department of Transportation- Excused              |
| Peter C. Knudson   | Utah State Senate                                       |
| Peter W. McDonough | American Society of Civil Engineers- Excused            |
| Mark Petersen      | U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)                     |
| Mark Morley        | Utah House of Representatives (appointed Jan. 15, 2005) |
| Nannette Rolfe     | Utah Division of Emergency Services/DPS-Excused         |
| Vacant             | Governor's Office of Planning & Budget                  |

### **CEM Staff Present:**

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

### **UGS Staff Present:**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| -Gary Christenson | Geologic Hazards Program, Utah Geological Survey |
|-------------------|--|

**Guests Present/Committee Members:**

|                   |                                |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| -Steven Bartlett  | U of U                         |
| -Darlene Batatian | SL County Geologist            |
| -Scott Behunin    | BCI                            |
| -Jim Higbee       | UDOT Legacy Pkwy               |
| -Andy Jensen      | SL County Plans Examiner       |
| -Ryan Smith       | U of U/College of Architecture |
| -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.

**Motion:** *Barry Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on October 22, 2004. Carl Eriksson seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

➤ **PRESENTATION OF APPRECIATION PLAQUE TO SCOTT BEHUNIN**

Barry Welliver presented a letter and plaque to Scott Behunin for his dedicated service on the USSC and commitment to the State of Utah.

➤ **INFORMATION AND UPDATE ITEMS**

Bob Carey and Barry Welliver, spoke on the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council Meeting they attended on November 17, 2004. This was a daylong meeting, much like ours, and is actively supported by the Nevada Bureau of Mines. Among the many topics that were discussed included; the Duck, Cover and Hold issue; earthquake prediction; and the URM's within both Nevada and Utah. The Nevada Council also gave several technical presentations during the afternoon portion of the meeting. Both Utah and Nevada have many common interests and vowed to continue communion between the Commissions.

Walter Arabasz reported on the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS) and statewide ShakeMaps. The FY05 Congressional appropriation for ANSS is \$5.25 million dollars, which is an increase of \$825,000 above the FY04 level. Walter distributed a copy of a map showing the location of new real-time strong-motion stations that will be installed this year as part of a cooperative project involving the University of Utah, the U.S. Geological Survey, the Utah Geological Survey, and the

Utah Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security. In order to enable rapid computer-generated maps of ground shaking following sizable earthquakes anywhere in Utah, the new stations will extend strong-motion monitoring into southwestern Utah, particularly in the St. George, Cedar City, Beaver, and Richfield areas, as well as into eastern parts of Utah near Vernal and Moab.

Barry Welliver gave a brief update on the Marriott Library-Legislative funding. The funding will be an issue for the 2005 Legislative session. The library is ranked #2 on the State Building Board priority list. The Commission also discussed taking a tour of the State Capitol Building for future USSC meeting.

Barry discussed possible funding to URS Corporation for the HAZUS project. It was discussed for the USSC to help fund the three publications that are to come from this project. The USSC feels that these documents will help the Commission as a tool to convince others for the need. A motion was then placed before the Commission.

**Motion:** *Walter Arabasz made a motion for the Chair of the Commission to be authorized, during interim periods between our quarterly meetings, to approve unexpected, time-critical expenditures up to a total of \$1000 between two successive quarterly meetings, with timely notification and report to the Commission member. Carl Eriksson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.*

Bob Carey gave an update on the student research grant program. The group out of Summit County will be going to Yellowstone for the third time and Bryant Middle School proposed a seismic project looking at homes. A \$1000 request has been made for each.

Bob spoke on the Duck, Cover and Hold issues. A news article was placed in the Salt Lake Tribune regarding this issue. Ed Yeates did a news story on KSL. A letter has been sent from USSC to the State Superintendent of Schools and has been distributed to all the teachers of the state.

Gary Christenson reported on the new House of Representatives member. Michael T. Morley will be the new House of Representatives member to replace Don Bush. He is from Spanish Fork on his second term.

Gary spoke on the IBC ground-shaking maps. Gary distributed a couple of hard copies of the maps for the Commission. Gary is asking for comments from the Commission.

Bob Carey reported on Pre-disaster Mitigation Program (PDM) progress. The PDM program is a federal mitigation program that replaces Project Impact. Most projects have been earthquake related. 10-15 projects have been submitted and each project could be funded to the maximum of 2.9 million. These projects should be submitted by the next USSC meeting and Bob could have a list of how each project was ranked.

➤ **2000-2004 USSC PROGRESS REPORT**

Barry Welliver asked for the Commission to have an open discussion on the USSC progress report. After a brief discussion each Commissioner was tasked to write their perspective, keeping it simple and precise, and email this to Barry. A timeline with a draft due date and a final due date needs to be set. A web-based document or brochure was given as an option for the report. Another option is to hire a student or an intern to help draft the report. An outline will be distributed for all Commissioners to comment upon as to the content of the report.

**Motion:** *Matthias Mueller made a motion to set aside \$2500 for the preparation of the 2000-2004 Progress Report. Kerry Baum seconded the motion and it was unanimously passed.*

➤ **URM DISCUSSION**

Barry Welliver began a discussion on the URM within the State and gave a handout to the Commission regarding this issue. The goal is to retrofit or remove URM's and reduce liabilities in a timely manner. USSC needs to spearhead the efforts to introduce a policy statement and potential legislation to create a productive dialogue between stakeholders. The possibility of a potential ad-hoc committee was discussed to pick up where the Commission has left off. This ad-hoc committee was then created with volunteers such as Barry Welliver, Carl Eriksson, Matt Cassel, Bob Carey, Darlene Batatian, Steve Bartlett, Ryan Smith and Andy Jensen. They were charged with developing a resolution and write a paper on the URM building situation in the state of Utah. A strategy and resolution will be discussed at the next meeting.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**

**DATE:** Friday, April 22nd, 2005  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
**PLACE:** 5110 State Office Building  
Salt Lake City, Utah

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**

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