

# Utah Seismic Safety Commission

Meeting  
October 6, 2006  
Minutes

On October 6, 2006 a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission was held at the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District Water Treatment Plant, 15305 S. 3200 W., Bluffdale, Utah. Chairman Pete McDonough called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m.

**Members Present:**

-Rick Allis	Utah Geological Survey
-Walter J. Arabasz	U of U Seismograph Stations
-Kerry Baum	Association of Contingency Planners
-Roger Evans	Utah League of Cities & Towns
-Mike Kuehn	Utah Division of Homeland Security/DPS
-Peter W. McDonough	Chair, American Society of Civil Engineers
-Representative Morley	Utah House of Representatives
-Jake Watson	Structural Engineers Association of Utah
-Boyd Wheeler	Utah Department of Transportation

**Members Not Present:**

Doug Bausch	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)
Brian Carver	Governor's Office of Planning & Budget
Matt Cassel	American Public Works Association
Sheila Curtis	Utah Insurance Department
Senator Peter C. Knudson	Utah State Senate
Matthias Mueller	Utah Division of Facilities Const. & Management
Mark Petersen	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)
Barry Smith	Western Mountain Region, American Inst. of Architects

**DES Staff Present:**

-Bob Carey	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DHLS
-Amisha Lester	Operations & Natural Hazards Section, DHLS

**Guests Present/Committee Members:**

-Larry Newton	Office of Education
-Julie Ott	ABS Consulting
-Shazelle Terry	JVWCD
-Barry H. Welliver	Structural Engineers Association of Utah

➤ **WELCOME/OVERVIEW**

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

➤ **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**Motion:** *Rick Allis made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting held on July 28, 2006. Roger Evans seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.*

➤ **TOUR OF THE JVWCD TREATMENT PLANT SEISMIC UPGRADES**

Julie Ott from ABS Consulting gave a brief presentation on the seismic upgrades to the facility and led the Commission on a tour of the JVWCD Water Treatment Plant in Bluffdale.

➤ **NEWS & UPDATES**

Barry Welliver and Walter Arabasz discussed the FEMA document: Promoting Seismic Safety, Guidance for Advocates. This document is an excellent source of general information. The document is broken up into six different parts.

Walter Arabasz spoke on the ANSS update. The national funding currently is at \$8 million. The National Earthquake Information Center has received somewhere between \$2 to 3 million for their 24/7 operation. A proposal has been given to OMB for a ramp-up in funds for the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program, which may include some funding from ANSS.

Director Mike Kuehn reported on the reorganization of the Department of Public Safety and Utah Division of Homeland Security. Department of Public Safety Commissioner Robert Flowers has accepted the position of Director for FEMA Region VIII and has now been replaced by Commissioner Scott Duncan. Commissioner Duncan has three Deputy Commissioners: Mike Kuehn with Homeland Security, Lance Davenport with the Highway Patrol and Ed Phillips with Drivers License and BCI.

Walter Arabasz spoke on the idea of possibly placing strong-motion instrumentation within the Capitol building before it is completed. Walter spoke with Speaker Curtis about possible funding for the instrumentation. Instrumenting the Capitol would enable researchers and facility managers to measure the building's response, and it would be most efficient to do it before the building is complete. Walter and Representative Morely will discuss this idea and Walter will report back to the Commission at the next meeting.

Bob reported on the current Commission budget. There is a carryover from FY06 in the amount of \$5530.16 that will be added to the FY07 appropriation of \$4100. Next year's expenses should be the Student Research Grant Program and the Progress Report.

Barry Welliver reported on the 2000-2005 Progress Report. Barry gave a handout of the "USSC, What We Want You To Do," statement that will be within the document. It is a list of suggestions and recommendations for Individuals, Businesses and Public Officials. Barry asked the Commission for any suggestions or comments regarding this portion of the document. The final product will be put together between now and the next meeting.

Barry also reported on the URM Initiative. Barry and Doug Bausch, who is on the ad hoc committee, have been gathering critical data from the Utah Historical Society for a specific HAZUS run that will show the URMs within Utah. Barry will have better information for the Commission at the next meeting.

The Commission discussed the joint meeting with the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council. The Commission has agreed to have the joint meeting on May 10, 2007, in St. George. Rick Allis passed out a draft agenda for the joint meeting. The focus of the meeting will be "How Prepared Are We? How Prepared Should We Be?" The meeting will consist of several keynote presentations and discussions of earthquake issues in rural areas.

Further discussion on the joint meeting included funding, vehicles, hotel, food, and the meeting room. USSC needs to put together a query of who will be going, who will pay, what vehicles are available and who is interested in a field trip.

➤ **PROPOSED UTAH STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION "TEN-YEAR SEISMIC MITIGATION PLAN"**

Larry Newton, State Office of Education, gave a presentation on the Office of Education's "Ten-Year Seismic Mitigation Plan." Larry gave a handout on the ten-year plan to the Commission.

➤ **NEXT MEETING**

**DATE:** Friday, January 12, 2006  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.  
**PLACE:** CONSONUS  
7202 South Campus View Drive  
West Jordan, 84084

➤ **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.