

**Utah Seismic Safety Commission**  
Meeting  
January 20, 2011

On January 20, 2011, a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC) was held in the Kletting Room of the State Capitol Building, Salt Lake City, Utah. Chair Roger Evans called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.

**Members Present:**

Roger Evans, Chair	Utah League of Cities and Towns
Rick Allis	Utah Geological Survey
Evan Curtis	Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
Keith Koper	University of Utah Seismograph Stations
Meldee Love	Proxy for Brad Tibbitts, Utah Insurance Department
Greg McCombs	Structural Engineers Association of Utah
Peter McDonough	American Society of Civil Engineers
Barry Smith	American Institute of Architects

**Members Not Present:**

Kurt Baxter	Utah Division of Facilities, Construction and Management
Michelle Jones	Association of Contingency Planners
Senator Knudson	Utah State Senate
Keith Squires	Utah Division of Homeland Security
M. Leon Berrett	American Public Works Association
Fred Doehring	Utah Department of Transportation
Michael Morley	Utah House of Representatives

**USSC Staff Present:**

Bob Carey	Utah Division of Homeland Security
Sheila Curtis	Utah Division of Homeland Security
Chris DuRoss	Utah Geological Survey

**Guests Present:**

Walter Arabasz	University of Utah Seismograph Stations
Glen Palmer	Structural Engineers Association of Utah
Bruce Spiegel	Utah State Risk Management
Emily Esplin	In Harm's Way
Judy Watanabe	Utah Division of Homeland Security
Barry Welliver	Structural Engineers Association of Utah
Judy Fahys	Salt Lake Tribune

## **Welcome/Overview**

USSC Chair Roger Evans welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting and asked for introductions.

Commissioners reviewed the minutes of the October 21, 2010, meeting, several corrections were made, also Barry Smith was in attendance but not noted as such.

**Motion: Approve the minutes from the October 21, 2010 meeting.**

**Moved by: Barry Smith**

**Seconded by: Pete McDonough**

**Motion was approved by a quorum of the Commission**

## **Presentation:**

Presentation by Keith Koper, Utah Seismograph Stations:

- Tushar Mountains earthquake (and aftershocks)
- 130 reports from people that felt the event.
  - 61 Beaver area, 12 Monroe, and 6 from the Marysvale, Kingston area.
  - Some described the event like a heavy truck striking the building.
  - Some noticed that standing cars rocked noticeable, dishes and window rattled alarmingly.
  - The earthquake was considered light.
  - Previous earthquakes in the area have been shown as far back as 1901, possibly in the same area as this one was felt.
  - As of January 19, 2011, a total of 80 aftershocks have been located.
  - Temporary seismometers have been placed in that area.
  - UUSS is planning another press release after all the data is collected. There is a web page that is dedicated just for this event.
  - At this time, no rock slides or avalanches have been reported.

## **Legislative Update:**

- Roger gave an overview of bills to be presented in the upcoming legislative session.
- **HB 53 Condo Conversion** – Salt Lake and Ogden have a high number of unreinforced masonry (URM) buildings that have been converted into condo's. These apartment buildings were built before 1975 and structural engineers need to evaluate these buildings.
  - Re-codification of some older bills will be wrapped into HB 53.

- **Rapid Vision Screening** – The RVS for Schools bill passed the House last year, but got lost in the Senate. The bill should start in the Business and Labor Committee.

### **Existing Buildings Committee:**

- **Utah School Seismic Hazard Inventory (RVS) Pilot Project**
  - Report is a survey of good faith.
  - The report, started in 2008, helps to focus the state on the URM issue of schools and should go before the Interim Committee this year. There are 550 URM schools built before 1975, all but 75 have been reviewed.
  - Rehabilitative costs are an issue because of the large square footage of the schools. The rehabilitation costs were so large that they were removed for the report.
  - Page 8 of the report is the main emphasis of the whole report. This is the part the Commission needs to decide whether to leave it in or take it out.
  - Much discussion was made on this part of the report. 128 sites were visited which included public and charter schools. The buildings were picked based on a criteria developed by the Project Committee. A valid and statistically correct RVS survey for the legislators was very important.
  - Scores were assigned to each school building that was screened. Cost of rehabilitation is noted on page 18 of the report, the costs range from \$3 - \$29 per square foot. Cost varies because of repairs needed based on whether part or all of the building needed rehabilitating. Report hopefully shows that we can't afford not to fix this problem.
  - This bill will have an appropriations of \$500,000 attached to it.
  - Public press release would be good for this bill.
  - PTA has a buy in on this report.

**Motion:** Approve to leave in the ending paragraph on Page 15.

**Moved by:** Greg McCombs

**Seconded by:** Pete McDonough

**Motion was approved by a quorum of the Commission with one member abstaining from the vote.**

### **Other Items**

- **Utah ShakeOut - April 2012 Earthquake Exercise - Bob Carey:**

- April will be a media blitz sent out by Homeland Security to make citizens aware of the 2012 exercise and how to prepare. April is Earthquake Preparedness month, so the media blitz kick off will coincide with that event.
- Week of the April 16 is when the media campaign will begin.
- There will be a website that will give more details on the Utah ShakeOut. When it becomes active the Commission will be notified.
- There is also a video being made that is an outtake of the California's YouTube video. Commission will also be notified when it becomes available and maybe put a link on the Commission's site.

**Science Movie Night, Keith Koper:**

The downtown Library will host a showing of the movie "Earthquake 1974." This is free to the public and should be a great time.

**New EOC, Bob Carey:**

Division of Homeland Security has secured funding to build a new EOC. It will be built in the west area of the capitol. Building will start after the legislative session and should be done by August or September of this year, it will be about 7000 square feet.

**Budget Report, Bob Carey:**

The Commissions budget comes from the Division of Homeland Security. The funding is renewed each year in the amount of \$14,000.

**WSSPC, Peter McDonough:**

The meeting this year will be April 4, 2011 in Boise; the commission should send the chair to represent Utah. Also following is the earthquake program managers meeting.

**Motion: Approve the funding to send the Chair of the Commission to the WSSPC Conference.**

**Moved by: Pete McDonough**

**Seconded by: Keith Koper**

**Motion was approved by a quorum of the Commission.**

**In Harms Way - Emily Esplin**

In Harms Way has been working with several elementary classes in the Provo School District. The classes are now taking measurements of different classrooms to implement the preparedness updates as needed, They are working closely with the teacher on this part. Also Rachel has moved and is not longer representing the Provo School District.

**Next meeting** will be held the third week in April, which is the 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:00am in the Kletting room of the State Capitol.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:58