

Utah Seismic Safety Commission
Quarterly Meeting Minutes
Held Virtually
October 30, 2020

On October 30, 2020, a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC) was held virtually on account of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Dr. Keith Koper, USSC Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Keith Koper, Chair	University of Utah Seismograph Stations
Steve Bowman, Vice Chair	Utah Geological Survey
Jessica Chappell	Structural Engineers Association of Utah
Leon Berrett	American Public Works Association
Kris Hamlet	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Steven Bruemmer	American Institute of Architects, Utah Disaster Assistance
Patrick Tomasino	Utah Division of Facilities and Construction Management
Evan Curtis	Utah Governor's Office Planning and Budget
Kyle Becker	Utah Insurance Department
Sean McGowan	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)

USSC Staff Present:

Bob Carey	Utah Division of Emergency Management
John Crofts	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Adam Hiscock	Utah Geological Survey
Emily Kleber	Utah Geological Survey

Guests Present:

Kris Pankow	University of Utah Seismograph Stations
Eric Martineau	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Sheila Curtis	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Brent Maxfield	Utah Citizens for Seismic Safety
Grant Willis	Utah Citizens for Seismic Safety
Emma McFee	Utah Division of Emergency Management

*Please note other guests were present and have not been identified, due to meeting being held virtually. Attendees and guests were introduced or have been identified online.

Members Not Present (excused):

Peter McDonough	American Society of Civil Engineers
Orion Goff	Utah League of Cities and Towns
Joaquin Mixco	Utah Department of Transportation
Chris DuRoss	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)

Welcome and Introduction of Members and Visitors/Approval of Minutes

Keith Koper made introductions and invited attendees to introduce themselves.

Discussed Kris Hamlet appointing two new members with Kris speaking

Approval of Minutes

Steve asked for a vote on the Approval of Minutes from the July 30, 2020, Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC) meeting and the Fourth Quarter Joint Utah/Nevada meeting.

Bob Carey (Proxy for Kris Hamlet) made a motion to approve the minutes, for the July 30, 2020 meeting minutes.

Keith discussed writing letters of recognition past Commission members: Meldee Love, Craig Kerkham, Leon Barrett, and Roger Evans.

Steve proposed a motion to send the letters to Leon, the past USSC Chair, and the past three Commissioners.

Jessica Chappell seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously passed.

Commission Membership and Future Plans

Keith discussed the two Commission vacancies from the Commission membership statute change that removed two Utah Legislators. He suggested emailing Kris Hamlet with anyone interested. The Utah Chapter of the Association of Contingency Planners needs to appoint another Commissioner due to Craig Kerkman's recent retirement.

Steve Bowman stated that the last Legislative Session approved a change in statute, and that now, Kris Hamlet, Utah Division of Emergency Management Director, has the authority to appoint two new members to replace the two vacancies previously held by Legislators. There was a discussion on various organizations that could be represented on the Commission.

Bob Carey agreed to convey the Statute change to Kris Hamlet regarding the appointees.

Keith opened discussion on the Commission's statutory sunset date.

Steve informed the Commission that if no legislation were to be introduced, then the Commission would sunset on January 1, 2025. A discussion ensued about introducing legislation to eliminate the sunset clause on the Commission.

Evan Curtis recommended presenting possible legislation now. Discussion concluded with full agreement to get a bill through on the next Legislative session.

Jessica Chappell reported that Representative Andrew Stoddard could be approached and that he was helpful in the past.

Bob suggested consulting with Kris Hamlet to assist with Legislative language.

Evan suggested asking someone, not working with the state, to make a recommendation.

Jessica offered to reach out to the Legislators for assistance.

Keith discussed the Fix the Bricks program and the potential to expand it to a statewide program. Discussion regarding the Fix the Bricks program occurred regarding people outside of Salt Lake City who wish to participate.

Jessica made a motion to set up a subcommittee to discuss Brent Maxfield's motion suggestion and have on the agenda for the next meeting for a full recommendation.

Leon seconded the motion to create a subcommittee. The Motion passed unanimously.

Sean McCowan discussed the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program, answered questions, and provided a presentation on BRIC.

Keith mentioned that the USSC Executive Committee would further discuss BRIC in another meeting and suggested discussing BRIC at future Commission meetings.

John Crofts discussed the USSC Progress Report, provided an overview of the draft report, and thanked everyone for their narratives. He invited the Commission to contact him for additional edits.

Brent Maxfield discussed the *Utah Citizens for Seismic Safety* organization earthquake messaging. He provided a presentation and included an expanded message with an emphasis on the Wasatch fault. He provided some suggestions for the Commission and offered support and assistance to the Commission on earthquake mitigation and messaging efforts. He petitioned Commissioners and others to share his presentation to their own respective groups. His presentation was followed by a discussion regarding earthquake hazards, messaging, and scientific aspects of earthquakes.

Brent answered questions and presented to the Commission various action items he is advocating.

Bob briefly discussed the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction (ACEHR) and discussed his involvement and contributions.

Kris Pankow gave a presentation regarding monitoring for potential induced seismicity from the Utah Frontier Observatory for Research in Geothermal Energy (FORGE) project. She explained the project as a large U.S. Department of Energy project and explained the seismic aspects relating to this project. The project is drilling a deep well and then using it to test new geothermal energy technologies. If the technology can be developed, then this could be shared with other regions in the world to harness geothermal energy. She described the project in detail and explained that the seismicity in the particular study area is low.

Jessica Chappell discussed improvement of seismic design standards and building resiliency. She discussed details and explained the importance of improved design standards and building resiliency.

Emily Kleber discussed Utah Geological Survey surface fault trace mapping and delineation of special study areas in Cache Valley and their work for the next update of the U.S. Geological Survey National Seismic Hazard Maps. She discussed the challenges in northern Utah and building on active faults. She also discussed the current update of the *Putting Down Roots in Earthquake Country Handbook* and a new Spanish version that would be available with the next printing.

Bob was recently appointed to the ACEHR Committee, and he explained what they do and explained that they advise all the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program agencies. He now sits on this committee and provided membership details. He invited the Commission to provide him input to push to the Committee. He said he is interested in having the Federal Emergency Management Agency create an Earthquake Office that would be beneficial to everyone. The ACEHR Committee meets twice a year.

Keith asked for a motion to adjourn. The next meeting will be January 21, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to noon, held as a virtual meeting due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Patrick made a motion to adjourn to adjourn.

Evan seconded motion the motion.

By acclamation, the meeting was adjourned.