

July 7, 2022
Utah Seismic Safety Commission
Quarterly Meeting Minutes (Held Virtually)

On July 7, 2022, a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC) was held virtually on account of COVID-19. The USSC Chair, Keith Koper, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Keith Koper, Chair	Univofersity of Utah Seismograph Stations
Steve Bowman, Vice-Chair	Utah Geological Survey
Leon Berrett	American Public Works Association
Steven Bruemmer	American Institute of Architects, Utah Disaster Assistance
Kris Hamlet	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Patrick Tomasino	Utah Division of Facilities and Construction Management
Evan Curtis	Utah Governor’s Office Planning and Budget
Peter McDonough	American Society of Civil Engineers
Joaquin Mixco	Utah Department of Transportation
Divya Chandrasekhar	University of Utah
Rhett Larsen	Utah State Board of Education
Robert Grow	Envision Utah
Sean McGowan	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)

USSC Staff Present:

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

Guests Present:

Sierra Sun	Envision Utah Youth Council
Wyatt Grow	Envision Utah Youth Council
Ari Bruening	Envision Utah
Lisa Sun	Brigham Young University
Walter Aribazs	University of Utah, retired
Glen Palmer	Palmer Engineering
Kevin Franke	Brigham Young University
Brent Maxfield	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Emma McFee	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Wade Matthews	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Judy Watanabe	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Kathy Holder	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Jim Pechman	University of Utah
Janell Woodward	State of Nevada, Earthquake Program Manager
Michael Conway	State of Arizona, Earthquake Program Manager

Members Not Present (excused):

Jessica Chappell, Vice-Chair	Structural Engineers Association of Utah
Kyle Becker	Utah Insurance Department
Orion Goff	Utah League of Cities and Towns
Chris DuRoss	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)

*Please note, that other guests may have been present and not identified, due to the meeting being held virtually. Most attendees and guests were introduced or identified online.

Welcome and Introduction of Members and Visitors/Approval of Minutes

Keith Koper asked for introductions and invited attendees to introduce themselves. He asked for a review of the minutes.

Keith asked for a motion to approve the minutes from April 14, 2022, USSC meeting:

Pete McDonough made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections.

Divya Chandrasekhar seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

The motion carried.

Ex-Officio Nomination

Ari Bruening, CEO of Envision Utah, was submitted to the Executive Committee to be nominated as a Commission Ex-Officio member for the Commission.

Divya Chandrasekhar made a motion to appoint Ari Bruening to the Commission as an Ex-Officio Commissioner for the Utah Seismic Safety Commission.

Evan Curtis seconded the motion. The Commission unanimously voted to appoint Ari Bruening as an Ex-Officio Commissioner.

Commission Elections

Keith Koper opened nominations for Chair of the Commission.

Evan Curtis nominated Keith Koper as Chair, and

Divya seconded the nomination.

The Commission unanimously voted to retain Keith Koper as Chair of the Commission.

Keith Koper opened nominations for Vice Chairs.

Divya nominated both Jessica Chappell and Steve Bowman as Vice Chairs.

Rhett Larsen seconded both nominations.

The Commission unanimously voted to retain Jessica Chappell and Steve Bowman as Vice Chairs. The voting was unanimous.

Envision Utah Youth Council

Sierra Sun and Wyatt Grow provided the Commission with a presentation and their survey results regarding seismic safety and Utah schools. They advocated for further seismic improvements in Utah schools. They discussed specific examples of URM schools. They referenced the Utah K-12 School Inventory Report. They encouraged the Legislature to provide funding for improvements and examine other options for school seismic improvement. They encouraged the Legislature to provide \$3.7 million for further seismic evaluation of the URM schools listed in the Inventory Report. They offered their help and support to the Commission to further advance seismic safety in schools.

Rhett Larsen asked them to provide their presentation to the State Board of Education.

The Commission held a discussion regarding the School Districts and the URM schools.

Utah Legislative Affairs

Keith Koper previously spoke to Jessica Chappell and discussed the Commission's five legislative recommendations. Keith repeated that these recommendations are exactly what the Commission needs to provide to the Legislature. He discussed each of the recommendations, and the Commission held a discussion regarding future recommendations. Keith recommended reviewing the five recommendations, reviewing the document, and seeing if there are any changes. He recommends reviewing and voting on the recommendations at the October meeting. The Commission held some discussions regarding the recommendations. There is strong support for repeating the unfulfilled recommendations. There was a discussion of the homebuilders' and commercial builders' opposition to recommendation 4.

Update on the 12 U.S. National Conference on Earthquake Engineering (12NCEE)

Many Commission members attended the Conference and provided overwhelmingly positive feedback. Governor Cox, Legislative Leaders, and other distinguished guests attended. The Utah Seismic Safety Commission was repeatedly complimented by the Governor and other elected officials. The Commission held a discussion and agreed that Utah was well-represented at this distinguished conference.

Nevada Earthquake Safety Council

Janell Woodward, Nevada Earthquake Program Manager, thanked Utah and our Commission participation with Nevada. She updated the Commission that Nevada has not yet restored their Commission; however, many Nevada participants wish to restore their Commission. She expressed her desire to have additional Nevada/Utah combined meetings and thanked our Commission for our support. She emphasized that Nevada and Utah share seismic risks and similar seismic challenges. The Commission held a discussion and unanimously agreed that we should continue meeting with Nevada and hopes to continue combined Nevada/Utah meetings in the future.

HayWired Earthquake Scenario, Hazus Model, and Options for Utah

Keith Koper discussed the California HayWaired Earthquake Scenario and discussed a similar scenario for Utah. The Commission held a discussion about including Utah in a similar scenario.

Divya offered to collaborate with other Commission members and provide a memo of recommendations at the next Commission meeting

Announcements and Other Business

Keith Koper briefly asked for other announcements and business and opened the meeting up to discussion. He reminded the Commission that the next meeting will be elections and to please attend.

The next Commission Meeting will be held on October 27 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Keith asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting:

Evan Curtis made a motion to adjourn.

Leon Berrett seconded the motion to adjourn.

By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned.

ACTION ITEMS

- Provide Rhett Larsen with contact names for the Envision Utah Youth Council for him to request they present to the Utah State Board of Education. (Completed)
- Provide Divya with a list of volunteers for future Utah Fault study. (Completed)
- Proposed combined Nevada Utah Commission meeting (Completed—discussed with Janell Woodward for possibly 2023.)
- Jeri Young Earthquake safety Commission will be doing their program
- HayWired Scenario and Utah's starting point—provide Divya with additional information for the scenario (completed).
- Disaster Resilience Event in October. Divya will send out a save-the-date (completed)
- Releasing a DEM report on the economic impact of supply chain disruptions (in the process)
- Put out USSC pamphlets, flyers, and anything else we have at the BRES meeting. (Completed)