

Adopted January 12, 2023

**Utah Seismic Safety Commission
Quarterly Meeting Minutes (Hybrid) Kletting Room at Utah State Capitol**

On January 12, 2023, a regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Utah Seismic Safety Commission (USSC) was a hybrid meeting. The USSC Chair, Keith Koper, 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, Vice-Chair	Structural Engineers Association of Utah
Leon Berrett	American Public Works Association
Steven Bruemmer	American Institute of Architects, Utah Disaster Assistance
John Crofts (proxy for Kris Hamlet)	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Patrick Tomasino	Utah Division of Facilities and Construction Management
Peter McDonough	American Society of Civil Engineers
Joaquin Mixco	Utah Department of Transportation
Rhett Larsen	Utah State Board of Education
Robert Grow	Founding Chair Emeritus, Envision Utah
Evan Curtis	Utah Governor's Office Planning and Budget
Kyle Becker	Utah Insurance Department
Orion Goff	Utah League of Cities and Towns
Sean McGowan	Federal Emergency Management Agency (Ex-Officio)
Ryan Beck (proxy for Ari Bruning)	Envision Utah (Ex-Officio)

USSC Staff Present:

Debbie Worthen	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Adam Hiscock	Utah Geological Survey
Emily Kleber	Utah Geological Survey

Guests Present:

Emily Morton	University of Utah Seismograph Stations
Brent Maxfield	The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Glen Palmer	Palmer Engineering
Kathy Holder	Utah Division of Emergency Management
Jim Pechman	University of Utah
Janell Woodward	State of Nevada, Earthquake Program Manager
Jeff Johnson	Utah DEM
Brandon Webb	FEMA Region VIII
Loren Blauer	Resident of Bountiful

Members Not Present (excused):

Divya Chandrasekhar	University of Utah
Chris DuRoss	U.S. Geological Survey (Ex-Officio)
Kris Hamlet	Utah Division of Emergency Management

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 October 27, 2022, USSC meeting:

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

Rhett Larsen seconded the motion to approve the minutes.

The motion carried.

Discussion on a Feasibility Study of a Statewide URM Retrofit Program & Update on the Enhanced Utah State Hazard Mitigation Plan

Kathy Holder provided an overview and held a discussion on the ongoing Feasibility Study of a state-wide URM retrofit program. She discussed the addition of new staff and the reorganization of DEM staff. She also discussed the work DEM is conducting to have an Enhanced Utah State Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Update on the new USSC Website

Adam Hiscock provided an update on the earthquakes.utah.gov website, which will now house the Commission's meeting minutes, updates, and Commission business.

Update on the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP)

Sean McGowan provided an in-depth review of NEHRP and FEMA Region VIII. Sean provided details and a review of how his program partners and works with John Crofts and leverages efforts and partnerships with the state of Utah.

Jessica Chappell made a motion that the Commission endorses the updates to recommendations, adding coordination with additional endorsements.

Leon Berrett seconded the motion.

The vote was unanimous.

Governor's Report

Evan Curtis provided a detailed Governor and Legislative report on earthquake related issues.

The Commission discussed complimented Evan and the Governor's office for their strong support. Evan discussed some of the financial investments towards schools that the Legislature and the Governor have advocated and advanced.

Update on School Unreinforced Masonry (URM) Buildings and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Support

Sean McGowan and John Crofts provided an update on School URM buildings and FEMA's continued support to address the URM risk with schools.

Utah Legislature Updates

Ryan Beck discussed Envision Utah's recent grant and their continued efforts to educate and support continued support for the Commission's earthquake recommendations. Ryan said the good news is that they did receive funding to provide further outreach to upgrades of Utah schools.

Update on the Recent Utah Geological Survey West Valley Fault Zone Paleoseismic Investigation and a Summary of the Basin and Range Earthquake Summit

Adam Hiscock provided an update on recent Utah Geological Survey work along the West Valley Fault Zone Paleoseismic Investigation and a summary of the Basin and Range Earthquake Summit (BRES). He referenced the studies and publications that are available for review. Adam gave special recognition and thanks to the Commission and staff who supported and worked to make BRES successful.

Governor’s Office of Boards and Commissions and Website—Review of Commissioner and Staff updates

John Crofts provided a review and update on the Governor’s Office of Boards and Commissions website. He has updated names and contact information along with staff updates to the website. John asked if anyone was interested in sharing their political affiliation that he would also update that information to the Governor’s office. The point was made that political affiliation is not required for the Commission and that it would be completely voluntary.

Announcements and Other Business

Dr. Emily Morton discussed recent earthquakes near Logan that were widely felt.

The Commission agreed to hold the next Commission meeting on April 27, 2023. The meeting will be a hybrid meeting and details will follow.

Adjourn

Patrick Tomasino made a motion to adjourn.

Leon Berrett seconded the motion to adjourn.

The motion to adjourn was unanimous.

*The agenda items were rearranged to accommodate speakers’ schedules. The agenda items were slightly out of order from the published agenda.

ACTION ITEMS

- Reserve Kletting Room for April 27th Hybrid meeting. (Completed)
- Finalize Commission Website to earthquakes.utah.gov (Completed)
- Sean McGowan provided maps of the URM’s in schools (Completed)

- Commissioners names and updates on Governor’s Boards and Commissions website (completed)
- Eric Martineau, provide additional information for Building Codes. (Completed in cooperation with Patrick Tomasino)
- DEM will work with AECOM to interview the Commission in support of feasibility study. (partially completed)
- Inform the Commission when study completed (ongoing)
- Ari Bruening officially added to Commission website (completed)
- Robert Grow’s title corrected (completed)
- Direct link to Legislative Publications (ongoing)
- Direct Link to URM Inventory on website (partially completed)
- List Envision Utah as a partner organization on earthquakes.utah.gov (ongoing)
- Create Quick Link Section, include schools and infrastructure, 2023 Recommendations etc. (Partially completed)
- Glen Palmer will send to Jessica (next week or two) regarding pin connections in Fix the Bricks and wanted to have it reviewed with SEAU. (completed)
- Jessica Chappell recommended having Soft Story retrofit from California to be included in the study (ongoing).
- Additional Endorsements (For Commission recommendations)—working with UTA, PTA, and AIA of Utah (partially completed and ongoing)
- Continue to work with the Utah State Board of Education (Superintendents) to support and endorse the Commission’s recommendations. (Partially completed)

**Please note, this meeting was hybrid. Efforts were made to document the attendees. Some guests may not have been captured. Please contact John Crofts at jcrofts@utah.gov if there were attendees who were not recognized. The presentation time slots from the published agenda were modified to accommodate the speaker’s request.*