

**MINUTES OF THE WESTERN STATES SEISMIC POLICY COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
Dolce Skamania Lodge
Meadow Room
1131 SW Skamania Lodge Way
Stevenson, WA 98648
June 17-18, 2004**

Thursday June 17, 2004

Present were: * WSSPC Director

*Rick Allis (until 2 pm)
Andrea Brown, WSSPC
Rod Combellick (present in a.m.)
*Lance Cook
*Edmond Deal
*David Liebersbach
*Ken Murphy
Dave Norman, Assist. State Geologist, Washington State
*Ron Teissere
Anita Vollmer, DHS/FEMA (by phone)
Craig Weaver, USGS (until 2 pm)

Call to Order and Introductions – Dave Liebersbach

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. and all those present introduced themselves. Dave welcomed Ken Murphy, appointed by Dave Liebersbach to fill Dallas Jones' Board position. Dave asked if he could move the agenda items around slightly to accommodate attendees who had to leave early. The Board agreed.

Proposed Policy Recommendations Comments

Rick Allis and Craig Weaver provided their comments on the proposed policy recommendations because they had to leave at 2 pm.

FEMA Report - Anita Vollmer by phone (9:25 - 9:45 am)

Anita called in via the meeting room's speaker phone and reported:

1. Anthony Lowe, Director, Mitigation Division resigned. Archibald "Trey" Reid former Director of Response, will be acting in his place. The FEMA mitigation team will brief him intensely early next week before the NEHRP hearing on Thursday, June 24, 2004 at 2:30 pm ET.
2. Next week's NEHRP reauthorization hearing is scheduled to review a draft bill developed by the House. The U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation will be considering the bill. Reps from each of the four NEHRP agencies will be on the panel. NIST will be the leading agency instead of FEMA if the bill is passed. The move for NIST to be lead agency came from Congress. FEMA wants to take a stand asking that FEMA have control over how the \$3M is spent.
3. Vollmer said they had to cut funds to the earthquake consortia by 15-20% across the board. Some projects were eliminated and/or cut, but not all equally. A certain amount of money had to be contributed to DHS. An internal decision within the Mitigation Division was made to cut WSSPC by \$10K, but a larger department decision was made to determine the other programs/projects that were to be affected.
4. Vollmer said the agenda and the planning for the National Earthquake Conference look good.

Action Item

Dave Liebersbach will try to talk with Senator Stevens from Alaska when in DC early next week.

BREAK - 9:45 - 10:00 am

Approval of March Minutes – Dave Liebersbach

Allis said the minutes looked good, but wants to know if some of the action items have been done.

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Board of Directors' meeting March 25-26, 2004. (Rick Allis)

SECOND: Ron Teissere

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

2005 WSSPC Conference Venue

Allis said some folks from the interior WSSPC states would like the 2005 WSSPC meeting to have a "Rural Area Earthquakes" theme and be held in one of their states. Craig Weaver said this is a timely issue.

Idaho was recommended as the host state. Utah and Nevada cannot do it, but are willing to help on the Organizing Committee with the agenda, speaker panels, venue, etc.

Action Items:

1. Talk with Bill Bishop in Idaho to get his approval.
2. Lance Cook, Ron Teissere and Ed Deal will assign staff to help on the Organizing Committee.

Executive Director Report - Andrea Brown for Patti Sutch

Technical EM Support on EQ '06 Conference Committee

Recently, Jack Moehle of PEER asked WSSPC to recommend an emergency manager to serve as liaison to the Technical Program Committee for the joint EERI-SSA-CA OES 100th Anniversary Earthquake Conference. Tim Manning expressed interest in learning more about participating. Liebersbach suggested having representation from California and recommended asking the new California emergency manager and the California geologist to report at the Board meeting in September re this issue. The Board asked how WSSPC can get compensated for participating in the planning and organizing of EERI's '06 Conference.

Action Items:

1. The Board asked that Patti Sutch talk with EERI about getting monetary compensation for helping with the EQ '06 Conference.
2. The Board also asked how much WSSPC relies on from its annual conference net income for operational support.

Board Member Terms Expiring, New Chair - Dave Liebersbach

Teissere's, Allis's and Liebersbach's terms expire this year. All will run for re-election, but Liebersbach will not continue as Chair. Lance Cook, At Large Member, is resigning his State Director position, and his position on the WSSPC Board. The Board discussed changing the At Large Member to Emergency Management. Dave will Appoint Cook's replacement from EM.

Terms for Manning, Murphy, Deal, and Cook's replacement expire in 2005.

Action Items

1. Invite an Idaho representative to serve as "Ex Officio" member in the year before the Idaho conference.
2. Invite the new California emergency manager to the September meeting.

SSAB Meeting - Rick Allis

Allis is confident people will attend. The Board said they will each have a rep at the meeting.

Action Items

Allis asked if reimbursement for SSAB meeting attendees is in addition to the travel funding offered to the 2 members from each WSSPC state.

USGS Report - Craig Weaver

Craig Weaver suggested that Mike Stickney should be considered for a special WSSPC award for his geological work. Craig summarized ANSS news, San Simeon earthquake report, and the 1906 Centennial plans in his detailed report (see Tab 23). The Board talked about Keilis-Borok's prediction. Allis said it's good if it raises awareness that earthquakes occur.

"Living with Risk" Video - Dave Liebersbach

Michael Lienau was at the AASG meeting at the Dolce Skamania Lodge earlier in the week interviewing as many geologists as possible. Liebersbach asked if there's a plan set up to use snippets of the video to promote the conference. Andrea Brown said there might not be enough time since the video may not be completed until just before the conference. She also said the Organizing Committee has not assigned anyone to this task, nor does she think Global Net Productions will have the time.

Conference Call with the Organizing Committee of the National Earthquake Conference (12 pm - 1 pm) - Board, Ed Fratto, Executive Director, NESEC

The Board joined the Organizing Committee's bi-weekly update conference call.

White Paper Issue - Andrea Brown

Weaver recommended WSSPC send the completed white paper to Jeff Morris at the Pacific North West Economic Region (PNWER). Cook said it should be similar to just the executive summary portion of EERI's book. The letters and supporting pages are too much. Allis said it should be four pages only or less. Teissere said he has time this summer to help write it. Ken Murphy recommended each Board member send key points to Andrea Brown or Patti Sutch.

Action Items

1. The Board will help write a strawman version, but they need to understand better the key reasons from Elizabeth Lemersal.
2. Gary Brown in Alaska will also help write the white paper, per Liebersbach.

WSSPC Budget - Andrea Brown for Patti Sutch

The 2004 FEMA grant was reduced from \$160K to \$150K. The current WSSPC office space has been sold and the new owner will take over the space in January, 2005. Andrea Brown reported that Patti Sutch found a new office in downtown Palo Alto in order to help accommodate the \$10K budget cut. A deposit was put down in order to hold the space until Monday, June 21, 2004. The new office is located 2 blocks from the Palo Alto train station, is 540 sq ft and is \$1080/month compared to the current office space of 214 sq ft at \$1700/month. Annual parking permits in downtown Palo Alto will cost approximately \$335 each. There will be some up front costs for a copy machine, fax machine and designated fax line, DSL transfer, moving services, and postage meter.

The Board approved the move to the new office and the parking permits, but asked to review the lease before it is signed.

Action Items

Ron Teissere and/or Rick Allis volunteered to review the lease on Monday, June 21, 2004 before it is signed.

Review and Approval of Strategic Plan - Dave Liebersbach

Allis said it is okay as is and recommended the Board approve it.

Basin and Range Summit II Update - Lance Cook

Cook said it was heavy on seismology. It was informational and useful with some good and some not so good talks. It gave him a perspective on how seismologists are so involved in their own activities that they miss the big picture on how to work with geologists. The Board agreed that WSSPC needs to find a better

way to marry the seismology and geology folks to prevent either group from being too localized. The \$2K that WSSPC gave to help four WSSPC members attend this event was well spent.

Cook stated the need to get the geological audience to attend technical meetings, such as the Basin and Range Summit II. Teissere commented on how beneficial it is in Washington when Craig Weaver (a seismologist) talks to the Washington State Emergency Management Council about the threat of earthquakes and how to mitigate.

Action Items

Regional WSSPC conferences in the future need more than field trips and should include more technical workshops to entice geologists to attend.

Request to Translate Earthquake Insurance Summit Volume - Andrea Brown for Patti Sutch

The Board approved the request to allow Sun Zhenkai in Beijing to translate the volume into Chinese regardless of whether we have the original figures. They can scan the figures in the current printed volume.

WSSPC Display - Andrea Brown

Andrea reported it would cost approximately \$1K to purchase a traveling display and to print, laminate and adhere velcro to each display panel graphic. She said the Board has been talking about having a professional display to put at various events for over 3 years. The Board approved the purchase and production of the display.

Action Items

Cook said Wyoming would print out each display panel on their 40" plotter, and laminate and adhere velcro to each panel. He said to send the graphic files to Jim Case.

Joint Consortia Meeting - Andrea Brown

The Board is interested in meeting with the other consortia Boards.

Action Items

Liebersbach will contact one of the CUSEC Board members to determine their interest level.

Review and Approval of Strategic Plan (Continued) - Dave Liebersbach

It was stated that financial stability is important.

MOTION: To adopt the strategic plan. (Ron Teissere).

SECOND: Lance Cook

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Friday June 18, 2004

Present were:

Andrea Brown, WSSPC

*Lance Cook

*Edmond Deal

*David Liebersbach

*Ron Teissere

* WSSPC Director

Call to Order – Dave Liebersbach

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. Ken Murphy was unable to attend the meeting due to car problems.

Review of Proposed Policy Recommendations - Board

The Board reviewed the draft policy recommendations. Additions and deletions will be made available on the WSSPC website.

Action Items:

Dave Liebersbach recommended sending all of the proposed policy recommendations to the Board members and executive directors of CUSEC and NESEC for review and to welcome their comments for discussion prior to and/or during the proposed joint consortia meeting in St. Louis at the National Earthquake Conference. Dave Liebersbach and Ron Teissere will be the contacts for receiving comments.

PR 04-1 & 04-2:

MOTION: To approve as they are. (Lance Cook)

SECOND: Ron Teissere

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

PR 04-3:

MOTION: To approve as amended. (Ed Deal)

SECOND: Lance Cook

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

PR 04-4:

MOTION: To approve as amended. (Lance Cook)

SECOND: Ron Teissere

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

PR 04-5:

Fix the spelling of unreinforced on the second page.

MOTION: To approve as amended. (Lance Cook)

SECOND: Ron Teissere

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

PR 04-6 (BRP Committee PR041):

Cook is comfortable with the old policy recommendation PR 02-3. Teissere suggests leaving it as is for one more year until PR 02-3 is officially up for review. The Board recommends that this proposed policy recommendation go back to the Basin & Range Committee to develop further. Cook understands their argument, but doesn't think it's the right approach.

Action Items:

Dave Liebersbach asked Ed Deal and Ron Teissere to send their comments to the Basin & Range Committee.

PR 04-7:

This will now be named PR 04-6.

Action Items:

Teissere will work on a draft of the rewording and send it to Patti or Andrea.

PR 04-8:

This will now be named PR 04-7. Dave Liebersbach recommended we give this policy recommendation to FEMA/DHS.

MOTION: To approve. (Ron Teissere)

SECOND: Lance Cook

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

PR 04-9:

This will now be named PR 04-8.

MOTION: To approve as amended. (Ed Deal)

SECOND: Lance Cook

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

Proposed Policy Recommendation:

Cook asked if we can have someone draft a policy recommendation that addresses the need to preserve the mitigation and preparedness function of the earthquake program to give to DHS regarding the importance of FEMA funding. Ken Murphy was suggested because he is the NEMA rep to NEHRP. This and PR 04-8 are excellent topics for the joint consortia meeting.

Action Items:

Teissere and Murphy will work on a draft version.

New Business – Andrea Brown

The University of Nevada Reno Seismological Laboratory requested financial support from WSSPC to support the David Burton Slemmons Earthquake Hazard Lecture Series Endowment (Tab 24). The Board decided that although it was a good cause the policy should be to decline requests for donations.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Brown
WSSPC Earthquake Program Manager
Substituting for Patricia L. Sutch, WSSPC Secretary