

**WESTERN STATES SEISMIC POLICY COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
HILTON SALT LAKE CITY CENTER
TOPAZ ROOM
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
FEBRUARY 11, 2009**

MINUTES

Present:

Rick Allis, Utah Geological Survey
Doug Bausch, FEMA Region VIII
Maiclaire Bolton, British Columbia Provincial Emergency Program
Rod Combellick, Alaska Geological and Geophysical Surveys
Johanna Fenton, FEMA Region IX
Jim Goltz, California Emergency Management Agency
Doug Gore, FEMA Region VIII
Larry Hultengren, Federal Emergency Management Agency
John Madden, Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Vicki McConnell, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
Pete McDonough, Utah Seismic Safety Commission
Ken Murphy, Oregon Emergency Management
John Parrish, California Geological Survey
Jeanine Petterson, FEMA Region VIII
John Schelling, Washington Emergency Management Division
Patti Sutch, WSSPC

Call to Order and Introductions

John Parrish called the meeting to order and everyone present introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes of December 16, 2008

John Parrish called for a vote to approve the Board meeting minutes of December 16, 2008. The Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

Executive Director Report – Patti Sutch

Patti reviewed the following financial statements in the 2008 Annual Report and Meetings book:

- Preliminary WSSPC year-end statement
- FEMA Grant 2007 Income/Expense with Re-categorized Budget
- FEMA Grant 2008 (August-November 2008)
- Current WSSPC FY budget
- Current WSSPC Income & Expense
- FEMA Grant 2008 (August 2008 – January 2009)

Income Sources: Income from the National Earthquake Conference has helped to support airfare travel to this WSSPC meeting and conference. Additional financial support is provided to WSSPC by Affiliate members. Three new Affiliate members have joined – Saunders Construction, U.S. Gypsum, and TOLCO, who is also exhibiting at this meeting. On February 4th we received a \$10K grant from the U.S. Geological Survey which will also help with our conference expenses and awards winner travel. All of the income showing on the WSSPC budget, therefore, is actual (to date).

Expenses: FEMA Grant 2007 was extended through December 31st and \$10K was provided to Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security for their Borah Peak scenario HAZUS run. Their report will be provided in the WSSPC 2009 Annual Report. We are currently halfway through the FEMA Grant 2008 time period and have expended about 49% of the grant funds. The grant has been billed and reimbursed through November 30, 2008.

Policy recommendations that are currently adopted are in the Annual Report, and the two policy recommendations to be considered at this meeting are in the Meetings book. The awards will be presented at the Friday night banquet.

John Parrish announced that Rick Allis would be receiving the WSSPC Leadership award.

Future WSSPC Meetings

The 2010 annual meeting will be in Broomfield, Colorado (outside Denver) with the Natural Hazards Center at the Omni Hotel Saturday July 10-14. Patti will be working out the hotel arrangements next week.

2014 marks the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Good Friday earthquake, and EERI is planning their international conference in Anchorage. Patti will explore with EERI a combined meeting there.

2009 Earthquake Program Managers Meeting – Bob Carey

The meeting possibly will be held in Buffalo sometime in the fall. In 2010 the meeting may be held at the National Earthquake Information Center (NEIC). A committee is being formed to plan the program and decide on the location.

Review of Board of Directors' Nominations

There are 4 positions open on the Board for 2009-2011 terms. John Parrish and Ken Murphy are continuing. The Emergency Management position is vacant, and the At Large position is currently held by Henry Renteria. However, California Office of Emergency Services re-organized in January and we don't know Renteria's status. Therefore, we proposed that Henry (or his successor) be nominated for the open Emergency Manager position and Pete McDonough from the Utah Seismic Safety Commission be nominated to fill the At-Large position. As soon as the California Emergency Management Agency Director is known, an invitation will be extended to fill the Emergency Manager position on the 2009-2011 Board.

Policy Recommendations

Policy Recommendation 09-1 had a number of comments returned after the January revision and re-posting, which were added to the version posted on the web before the meeting.

Rick Allis suggested adding the sentence: "FEMA is ideally positioned to support the production of these scenarios." After discussion, the group was supportive of adding a definition of a scenario, one developed from the NEHRP Scenario workshop last fall. Rod Combellick will find the definition and add it to the policy recommendation. The policy recommendation was recommended by the Board to be approved in principle.

Policy Recommendation 09-2 - Maiclaire Bolton noted that the policy recommendation was strongly worded towards FEMA, which does not apply to Yukon and British Columbia. Some solutions were proposed, but the Board decided to recommend it go as is to the members for a vote, subject to incidental changes which may be made later.

Review of 2010 Policy Recommendations

Six 2007 Policy recommendations were assigned to committees to review and report back to the Board in June.

07-1 & 07-2 Tsunami Committee

07-3 Basin & Range

07-4 Engineering, Construction, and Building Codes

07-5 Basin & Range

07-6 Basin & Range

New Business

John Parrish wants to make sure everyone is involved. John Madden offered to coordinate with the Pacific territories. Maiclaire Bolton is coordinating with Yukon.

Future Board meetings

The next meeting is a teleconference call in June. Patti will send an email to Board members to arrange a date.

Adjournment

John Parrish adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Sutch
WSSPC Secretary