



**Western States Seismic Policy Council
Annual Business Meeting
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
April 28, 2017**

MINUTES

Present: (Member and proxy indicated with +)

+Ryan Arba, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
+George Cabrera, CNMI Homeland Security & Emergency Management
+++Bob Carey, Utah Division of Emergency Management (also proxy for NV-GS and UT-GS)
+John Crofts, Utah Division of Emergency Management (proxy for AZ-GS)
++++Maximilian Dixon, Washington Emergency Management Division (also proxy for WA-GS, OR-EM, OR-GS, OR-SC)
+Rob Jackson, Colorado Earthquake Hazard Mitigation Council
+Steven Masterman, Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys
+++Peter McDonough, Utah Seismic Safety Commission (also proxy for CA-GS, CA-SC)
+Lealofisa Moliga, American Samoa Department of Homeland Security
Erin Mommsen, Western States Seismic Policy Council
+++Matthew Morgan, Colorado Geological Survey (also proxy for CO-EM, MT-GS)
++Kevin Richards, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency (also proxy for GU-EM)
++Brad Richy, Idaho Office of Emergency Management (also proxy for ID-GS)
Pascal Schuback, Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup
Patti Sutch, Western States Seismic Policy Council
+Susan Walker, New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
+Robert White, Emergency Management British Columbia
Rob Williams, U.S. Geological Survey
++Seth Wittke, Wyoming Geological Survey (also proxy for WY-EM)

Call to Order – Peter McDonough

The meeting was called to order by the WSSPC Board Chair Peter McDonough.

Roll Call – Patti Sutch

Twenty eight members were present or were represented by proxies, and a quorum was established.

Recognition of Dave Norman – Peter McDonough

Dave Norman, WSSPC Past Board Chair, was recognized with a plaque from the Board of Directors for his service as a Board member and WSSPC Board Chair.

Approval of Minutes – Peter McDonough

MOTION: To approve the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting May 6, 2016 (Kevin Richards).

SECOND: Maximilian Dixon.

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

USGS Report – Rob Williams

Rob Williams, USGS Earthquake Coordinator for the Central and Eastern U.S., gave a summary of research going on in the USGS across the country, external grants, and the budget.

Executive Director Report – Patti Sutch

- Patti reviewed the financial information contained within the Meetings Notebook, describing the first level of accounting in Quickbooks used for the WSSPC financial year and cooperative agreements (expenses only). Then for the second level of accounting, she allocates the time spent on each task in the FEMA Work Plan, which gives time and expenses, and this is what is reported to FEMA.
- The FY16 cooperative agreement has \$218,000 for the WSSPC base amount and \$125,000 for 7 state support projects: Alaska Workshop, Hawaii printing, Idaho public awareness campaign, Las Vegas billboards, Nevada and Wyoming non-structural mitigation, and NEPM travel support for the WSSPC states and territories. A time extension will be requested to complete the Alaska Workshop project.
- The FY15 cooperative agreement is completed except for requesting the final amount of \$2315.39. An extension was applied for on March 30 and we do not have an answer yet.
- The Annual Report covering the WSSPC fiscal year ending November 30, 2016 has been printed and is also linked on the WSSPC website.

Election of Board of Directors – Peter McDonough

Peter McDonough opened up the floor for Board of Director nominations, and hearing none, asked for a motion to approve the slate of three candidates for a two-year term starting in December 2017. Those candidates are: Karen Berry (CO-GS), Mark Ghilarducci (CA-EM), and Peter McDonough (At-Large, SC).

MOTION: To nominate the 3 Board members put forward (Ryan Arba).

SECOND: Steve Masterman.

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

Committee Reports

Basin & Range Province Committee – Seth Wittke

The Committee met and reviewed three policy recommendations. The Tsunami Committee joined them to resolve the proposed policy revisions. They also discussed the draft policies for 2018, including one on surface faulting.

Bob Carey said that the states should communicate better, especially when faults cross state lines. He asked if the policies have done any good? What are the states doing on URM inventories?

Are there new policies needed? Bob Carey mentioned that LiDAR was acquired in Utah from grants from multiple agencies. Rob Williams said the USGS has improved data acquisition of LiDAR and there is a NASA website link to more data.

Engineering, Construction, and Building Codes Committee – Peter McDonough

With Ron Lynn's retirement, Peter is now the Chair of the Committee. He had 2 conference calls and reviewed 2 policies (URM and New Schools). Rob Jackson chaired the committee meeting yesterday, and no further action on the policies was needed.

Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Committee – Maximilian Dixon

The Committee reviewed 4 policies and with the Basin & Range Province Committee, resolved their differences. The committee also discussed revising the 2011 WSSPC tsunami report.

Adoption of 2017 Policy Recommendations – Peter McDonough

17-1: Improving Tsunami Public Education and Warning Procedures for Distant and Local Sources

MOTION: To adopt Policy Recommendation 17-1 (Bob Carey).

SECOND: Kevin Richards.

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

17-3: Earthquake Monitoring Networks

Changes were to add geodetics and tsunami.

MOTION: To adopt Policy Recommendation 17-3 (Bob Carey).

SECOND: Kevin Richards.

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

17-4: Identification and Mitigation of Unreinforced Masonry Structures

No changes were made to the policy.

MOTION: To adopt Policy Recommendation 17-4 (Bob Carey).

SECOND: Kevin Richards

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

17-5: Earthquake Emergency Handbook for First Responders and Incident Commanders

The purpose of the policy has been met with the publication of the Earthquake Emergency Handbook.

MOTION: To retire Policy Recommendation 17-5 (Brad Richy).

SECOND: Bob Carey.

VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

17-6: Post-Earthquake and Tsunami Information Management Systems

Pascal Schuback suggested that with changes in technology and the vast amounts of data, it might be more useful to have a regional approach instead of a national one. Bob Carey's vision is that institutions would keep data and share it – data storage would not be a problem. Data collection and storage by each agency would use the same standards with the idea that it would be a system rather than a repository of data. With the different approaches, Peter McDonough asked if there was support to return it to committee for further development. Steve Masterman suggested it would be useful to have a national standard. Brad Richy suggested CREW could develop the standard, and Seth Wittke was hesitant to name a specific standard for all states.

MOTION: To send the policy back to committee (Brad Richy).

SECOND: Kevin Richards.

VOTE: 27 in favor, 1 dissent (Rob Jackson).

17-7: Earthquake Early Warning Systems

Steve Masterman suggested changing “supports” to “recommends” and including provinces. Rob Williams said that the USGS is trying to complete the West Coast system before going to another high hazard region. Robert White mentioned that the University of British Columbia sends alerts to Vancouver schools.

MOTION: To approve Policy Recommendation 17-7 (Bob Carey).
SECOND: Seth Wittke.
VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

17-8: Seismic Design and Construction of New Schools

The Board removed “state” from the last policy statement sentence.
Rob Jackson explained the purpose of the revisions is to selectively increase the code level especially if the schools will be used as shelters.

MOTION: To adopt the policy recommendation as revised (Bob Carey).
SECOND: Kevin Richards.
VOTE: Unanimously in favor.

2018 Draft Policies – Patti Sutch

The following five policy recommendations will be up for review in 2018.

Draft Policy Recommendation 18-1: Earthquake and Tsunami Planning Scenarios
Draft Policy Recommendation 18-2: Developing Earthquake and Tsunami Risk-Reduction Strategies
Draft Policy Recommendation 18-3: Definitions of Recency of Surface Faulting for the Basin and Range Province
Draft Policy Recommendation 18-4: Identification and Mitigation of Non-Ductile Concrete Buildings
Draft Policy Recommendation 18-6: Post-Earthquake and Tsunami Information Management Systems

Future Meetings – Patti Sutch

Patti said that in the past few years our annual meeting has been tied to the Earthquake Program Managers meeting because their travel is supported by FEMA through the consortia. With the return of direct state support, that may change. Members expressed a desire to keep the meetings in the western states and asked to keep them informed.

Review of EERI Policies – Peter McDonough

EERI asked WSSPC to review 5 policies. Patti received a few comments which she will pass on to EERI. The “Schools URM free by 2033” will be challenging for the states to meet. WSSPC can add a link on our website to the EERI policies.

New Business – Peter McDonough

No new business.

Adjournment – Pete McDonough

The meeting was adjourned by the WSSPC Chair, Peter McDonough.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Sutch
WSSPC Secretary