



**Monthly  
Bulletin  
August  
2019**

**WSSPC NEWS**

**Mark Your Calendars!**

WSSPC's Awards Nominations will open September 2nd, 2019. Do you know an individual or program that has shown exceptional creative and innovative efforts within the earthquake hazards reduction community? If so, take some time and write a nomination.

**Welcome Jerri Young Ben-Horin and Kris Hamlet to the Board of Directors!**

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*Jerri Young Ben-Horin, Board Member*

Jerri will be taking the place of the At-Large position on the board in December, 2019 as WSSPC Chair Pete McDonough will be stepping down in the next business year.

Jerri is a research Geologist with the Arizona Geological Survey and has taught at Scottsdale Community College and at Arizona State University as a visiting professor. She has also worked as a geologist for AMEC Earth and Environmental Consultants.

As an engineering geologist, Young Ben-Horin has worked with several companies on projects including basin analyses, geophysical data acquisition, bedrock and geomorphic flood plain mapping, slope stability analysis (including mapping and calculating factor of safety), paleoseismic investigations, soil analysis (field and laboratory), building pad grading projects and down-hole logging and drilling. Her current projects include working as the operator and manager for the Arizona Broadband Seismic Network and Hazards Mapping.

Kris Hamlet is replacing Caleb Cage as the emergency management representative on the WSSPC board of directors. Kris Hamlet has been with the Utah Division of Emergency Management (Utah DEM) since 1995 and was appointed as Director in July 2013. Kris has also held the titles of Deputy Director, Bureau Chief, Financial Manager, Support Services Coordinator, Accountant, Auditor, and Intern.

At Utah DEM, Kris works with the state agencies and local communities to mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergencies, disasters and catastrophic events. During times of activation, Kris serves as a State Coordinating Officer and one of the Governor's Authorized Representatives.



*Kris Hamlet, Board Member*



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**WSSPC at Utah's Unreinforced Masonry Summit**

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*First day of the Utah URM Summit*

WSSPC attended the Utah Unreinforced Masonry Summit in Salt Lake City June 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. The Summit brought together approximately 100 stakeholders from emergency management, building departments, government, the private sector, and non-profit groups.

The first day of the Summit was held in a conference-style and covered topics such as earthquake hazard along Utah's Wasatch Front, the risks URM buildings pose to communities in Utah, retrofitting programs in Utah, retrofit policy successes, and a panel discussion on financing opportunities.

The second day featured small group discussions lead by moderators that focused on the challenges, opportunities, and solutions related to financing, barriers other than costs and potential solutions, and gaining buy-in.

The Summit closed with strong commitments by local, state, and federal officials to collaboratively pursue additional mitigation efforts at the State and Local level.

**WSSPC Attended NEMA Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky**

On June 27, 2019, WSSPC participated in the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA) Earthquake subcommittee meeting in Lexington, KY. The subcommittee is headed by Robert Ezelle (WA). Those participating in the meeting, but not limited to, were: Brad Richy (ID), NEMA President; Russ Strickland (MD), Mitigation Committee Chair with the other participating partners CUSEC and NESEC.

The focus of the meeting was on the rewrite of the subcommittee charter and recommendations of potential national directions for emergency management focused earthquake programs. Specifically: updating the 2014 NEPM Position Paper; development of a national Earthquake Clearinghouse Framework; expanding NEMA Emergency Management Assistance Compact earthquake efforts; development of state earthquake work plans; the issues of cascading consequences for non-event but still impacted states, and; the use of Rapid Visual Screening (FEMA 154) to support risk identification and analysis.



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**WSSPC at the ICC and CALBO Seismic Roundtable Event in Sacramento, CA**

On July 25, 2019, WSSPC participated in the International Code Council/California Building Officials (ICC/CalBO) Seismic Roundtable. Participants included FEMA, NIST, ATC, architects, geo-physicists, ASCE, local building code officials, California Earthquake Authority (earthquake insurance), California Seismic Safety Commission, and others.



*WSSPC Executive Director Matthew Wall at ICC/CALBO Seismic Roundtable*

The goal for the event was to bring people together to begin the development of a roadmap for “Functional Recovery for new construction.” As defined at the roundtable, Functional Recovery means the design and construction of a building is such that it will

either withstand impact from an event or be restored to its pre-earthquake use and occupancy within a defined maximum time period. Per ICC/CalBO, this was the first meeting of this kind on this topic anywhere. The Roundtable discussion had three key components: 1) Identifying the ways to achieve functional recovery as a standard; 2) How can the ways identified be implemented as fast as possible, and; 3) How can participants leverage resources and each other.

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**We are Accepting Input for our Resources Webpage and Social Media Page!**

We are currently updating our resources and reports page on our website! We are looking for input on what you would like to see in our resources page and any specific articles, studies, or projects you would like referenced there.

We have also been expanding our social media. With efforts like #FableFriday, we are working to give more attention to earthquake safety. If you have any ideas for legends for #FableFriday or any other content you would like to see us start posting, please reach out with ideas!

If you have any thoughts, either on the concept for the page or possible content, please email our program manager Lara Brodetsky at [lbrodetsky@wsspc.org](mailto:lbrodetsky@wsspc.org).



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**Upcoming Workshops and Events:**

**Scientific Earthquake Studies Advisory Committee Meeting**

August 6-7, 2019

Golden, Colorado

<https://www.usgs.gov/natural-hazards/earthquake-hazards/scientific-earthquake-studies-advisory-committee-sesac>

**National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program Annual Meeting**

August 18-23, 2019

Salt Lake City, Utah

<https://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/meetings/2019annualmeeting/index.html>

**AEG 62nd Meeting**

September 17-22, 2019

Asheville, North Carolina

<https://www.aegannualmeeting.org/>

**USRC 2019 Resilience Policy Summit**

October 16, 2019

Vancouver, British Columbia

**NEHRP Alaska Earthquake Workshop**

September 24-26, 2019

Anchorage, Alaska

**National Earthquake Conference (NEC)**

March 4-6, 2020

San Diego, California

<http://earthquakeconference.org/>

**For more information on upcoming NEHRP related events, please visit:**  
[https://www.nehrp.gov/pdf/NEHRP\\_related\\_Events.pdf](https://www.nehrp.gov/pdf/NEHRP_related_Events.pdf)