



State of California

ALFRED E. ALQUIST
SEISMIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Seismic Safety Commission Meeting

West Sacramento City Hall

1110 West Capitol Avenue, First Floor Galleria

West Sacramento, CA 95691

January 10, 2019

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Michael Gardner, Chairman. Lena Daniel, Chief Administrative Officer, conducted the roll call.

Roll Call

Present:

Michael Gardner, Chair

Jorge Meneses

Timothy Strack

Dr. H. Kit Miyamoto

Edward Valenzuela

Mia Marvelli

Cindy Silva

Ivan Wong

Andrew Tran (9:30 a.m.)

Randy Goodwin (9:35 a.m.)

Representative Hess for Commissioner Cooley

Representative Arba for Commissioner Ghilarducci

Representative Hackett for Commissioner Ida Clair (9:50 a.m.)

Absent:

Tracy Johnson, Vice Chair

Ian Parkinson

David Rabbitt

Fuad Sweiss

II: Chairman's Remarks

Discussion:

Chairman Gardner congratulated Commissioner Silva on her reelection. Chairman Gardner looked for a motion on two sets of minutes for June 14th, 2018 and September 13th, 2018. A commissioner moved to approve the two sets of minutes. Another commissioner second the motion. There were no corrections needed to the minutes. All were in favor, no one opposed, and there were no abstentions.

Mr. McCarthy made a statement that Commissioner Widom is no longer with the State Architect.

III: University of California, San Diego Shake Table Upgrade & Center for Public Preparedness (CP2)

Speaker – Professor Joel Conte, University California, San Diego

Discussion:

Mr. Conte has been involved in the design of the Shake Table since 2001 and he is the principal investigator for the project team that is upgrading it. He presented on the Shake Table upgrade that started on October 1st.

The goal of the Shake Table is to reproduce accurate severe ground motions. Due to the mild climate, it was built outside so that there would be no height limitations. The design occurred between 2001 and 2002 and it was built between 2002 and 2004 and it was operated through funding from the National Science Foundation. Mr. Conte has counted about 30 major experiments since then. From 2004 to 2014, the Shake Table was supported again by the National Science Foundation.

Currently, the Shake Table is pulled and pushed by two gigantic actuators that only move in an East-West direction. When it was first designed in 2001, it was designed for six degrees of freedom, but only built for one degree of freedom because of project limitations at the time. The Shake Table can move plus or minus three-quarters of a meter and it has a peak velocity of 1.8 meters per second. It is the largest outdoor Shake Table in the world.

Mr. Conte explained the need for more than one degree of freedom in order to reproduce real earthquakes. Last April, the National Science Foundation said they would allocate \$16.3 million towards the Shake Table upgrade and the University of California, San Diego is providing \$3 million, with half of the money being a loan.

The upgrade would include increasing the size of the accumulator bank from 2,500 gallons to 10,000 gallons and adding two more actuators in a V-shaped formation. Since the Shake Table was designed with six degrees of freedom, everything is in place for the upgrade.

In the long-term, this upgrade is a valuable tool for California. Shake Table tests are needed in order to better understand how structures respond to earthquakes and how to make them more resistant when they are vulnerable to earthquakes. It will help save lives, improve response, reduce losses, and increase earthquake resiliency. The upgrade is slated for completion in Spring 2021.

IV. OutSmart Disaster Campaign: Transition

Speaker – Philip J. Laird, Deputy General Counsel, Business, Consumer

Services and Housing

Discussion:

Mr. Laird presented the 2019 strategy for the OutSmart Disaster Campaign. The first component involves partnering with a non-profit organization, specifically an organization called the Academy that is part of the California Local Economic Development Association. The goal of partnering with a non-profit organization would be to offload the day-to-day management of the campaign from Commission staff and Agency staff by having the non-profit manage contracts, continue work with Honey Agency, and head into more grant programs throughout the state. The Seismic Safety Commission would still ultimately drive the initiatives and the growth of the campaign by creating an advisory counsel that would meet biannually. This counsel would advise and authorize the direction that the non-profit partner takes the campaign into.

The second component is to move forward with larger funding that could fund the campaign for a year or multiple years at a time instead of on a month-to-month basis. Specifically, the Economic Development Administration has been identified as an entity that has grant money available for this kind of initiative and they have shown interest in the campaign.

Chairperson Gardner asked for a motion that the role of the Commission be that of a participant in the advisory council.

Commissioner Strack made a motion to support the change as proposed.

Chairperson Gardner asked Commissioner Strack if his motion included the statement that the Commission will not invest either dollars or significant staff time.

Commissioner Strack said it did not. He mentioned if there were to be a request for staff time or money, it would have to go through the Commission for review. Mr. Laird agreed with Commissioner Strack.

Commissioner Silva second the motion. All were in favor, no one opposed, and there were no abstentions.

V. Strategic Planning

Speaker – Richard McCarthy, Executive Director, Seismic Safety Commission

Discussion:

Mr. McCarthy presented an overview of the Commission's projects over the past 10 years as well as an overview of upcoming projects.

He discussed a proposal for a partnership between the University of California, San Diego, the University of Nevada, Reno, the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and the Seismic Safety Commission in order to establish a Center for Public Preparedness that would be located at UC San Diego. The focus will be to reduce multi-hazard risks, produce products that can be implemented through regulation or legislation, and form partnerships between individuals and organizations. Former Governor Gray Davis has volunteered to be the Chair of the Board and Chairman Gardner has been invited to represent the Commission.

Mr. McCarthy addressed the need for a rebrand of the Commission in order to develop a strategic plan that leaves room for change. He also mentioned the need for more funding. The Commissioners received a handout with a proposed strategic plan that was put together from feedback from a Commission workshop and e-mail feedback from Commissioners.

Ms. Daniel suggested that an additional workshop could be beneficial in order to collaborate and come up with more content. She then suggested appointing a subcommittee for the mission and vision and then holding a workshop in order to address the goals and a timeline for the plan.

Chairman Gardner asked for volunteers for the subcommittee. Commissioner Gardner, Commissioner Miyamoto, Commissioner Meneses, Representative Hackett, Commissioner Goodwin, Commissioner Strack, and Commissioner Tran will make up the subcommittee.

Ms. Daniel asked for the March meeting to be a full day meeting (if needed) where the second half of the day is used to develop the strategic plan. Chairman Gardner approved.

VI. Executive Director Report

Speakers – Richard McCarthy, Executive Director, Seismic Safety Commission;

Salina Valencia, Legislative/Communications Director, Seismic Safety Commission;

Lena Daniel, Chief Administrative Officer, Seismic Safety Commission

Discussion:

Ms. Daniel went over the current operating budget through November 2018 and projections through June 2019. Currently, the Commission is expected to have about \$75,000 that will be applied to moving the Commission to another building. If needed, there is an additional \$27,000 from the CRAF Fund that could also be used towards moving expenses. A building in West Sacramento has been identified as the new location.

The projection for fiscal year 2021 is that the Commission budget will be in the red for \$105,000, but there is a prudent reserve of \$171,000 that can cover the deficit. However, the Department of Finance

and Department of insurance would like to maintain that prudent reserve, so the Commission must come up with other options to make this solvent.

Ms. Daniel has been working with Budgets to come up with different scenarios that can help the Commission's budget. These scenarios include assessment increases or changing the language in the Insurance Code in order to collect on renters and mobile home properties. A third scenario would be a layoff plan. This would require a closed session since it is an HR matter, but a layoff would keep the Commission solvent until fiscal year 2023.

The funding subcommittee will try to meet before March or May, depending on the move timeline, order to discuss possible Budget Change Proposals and concepts, possible trailer bill language that would increase the insurance assessments and changing legislative language in the Insurance Code, and finding a special fund to help with the deficit so that the Commission may maintain operations.

Ms. Valencia discussed how AB-2681 was vetoed by Governor Brown. Commission staff will be meeting with Assemblymember Nazarian and his Legislative Director in order to discuss what the next steps will be. They may also be meeting with stakeholders such as the League of Cities, CSAC, CALBO, and the U.S. Resiliency Council to get input about their issues and concerns with the bill.

VII. Public Comment

Discussion:

Grace Kang, Director of Communications at PEER, made a public statement regarding PEER's commitment to providing support and resources to California in order to develop solutions to problems that arise out of earthquakes and the hazards that follow.

Ryan Kersting, Structural Engineer, made a comment regarding SEAOC's support of Assemblymember Nazarian's legislative bills and welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with Commission staff on the bills.

VIII. Miscellaneous & Good of the Meeting

Discussion:

Fred Turner was announced as the recipient of the 2019 Alfred E. Alquist Special Recognition Medal.

Ida Clair was announced as the Acting State Architect.

IX: Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Michael Gardner, Chair.

