



State Of California  
**ALFRED E. ALQUIST**  
**SEISMIC SAFETY COMMISSION**



*Governor Gavin Newsom*

Seismic Safety Commission Meeting  
West Sacramento City Hall  
1110 West Capitol Avenue, First Floor Galleria  
West Sacramento, CA 95691  
May 9, 2019

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Tracy Johnson, Vice Chair. Lena Daniel, Chief Administrative Officer, conducted the roll call.

**Present:**

Tracy Johnson, Vice Chair  
Representative Ryan Arba for Mark Ghilarducci  
Randall Goodwin  
Mia Marvelli  
Jorge Meneses  
Dr. H. Kit Miyamoto  
David Rabbitt  
Cindy Silva  
Timothy Strack  
Andrew Tran  
Edward Valenzuela  
Representative Jim Hacket for Ida Clair  
Ivan Wong

**Absent:**

Michael Gardner, Chair  
Ken Cooley  
Ian Parkinson  
Fuad Sweiss

**II. Chairman's Remarks**

**Discussion:**

Vice Chair Johnson asked for approval of March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting minutes. All were in favor and no one opposed.

**III. Expected Earthquake Performance of Buildings Designed to the California Building Code**

**Speaker – Grace Kang, Pacific Engineering Research Center**

**Discussion:**

Ms. Kang presented an update on a handout intended to inform the public about the expected earthquake performance of buildings designed to the California Building Code. Ms. Kang presented the Commission with an updated mockup of the handout that included the insertion of the logos for the Commission and PEER and a simplified chart.

Additional recommendations were made to include the word “schools” under the ordinary buildings list, include the term “collapse prevention” under the building code section, change “checks and other symbols” to “yes/no,” clarify some language, and increase font size if possible.

Ms. Kang proposed inserting additional information regarding life safety and collapse prevention in current white space on the handout instead of by the chart because the intent of the chart is to be simple and easy to read.

Mr. McCarthy requested that two commissioners be assigned to work with Ms. Kang. Commissioner Miyamoto and Commissioner Silva volunteered.

Vice Chair Johnson asked for a motion to approve the handout to be submitted after final modifications were made. The motion was made and seconded. All were in favor and no one opposed.

**IV. Earthquake Risk Reduction Policy: Local Policies and Programs**

**Speakers – Ryan Kersting, Structural Engineers Association of California;**

***David Bonowitz, Structural Engineers Association of California***

**Discussion:**

Mr. Bonowitz presented a pie chart that shows all the counties in Southern California and how many of the jurisdictions within those counties are doing soft story programs. He mentioned that every city is considered a single data point of the same size on the chart. He also posed whether every jurisdiction needs a soft story program if they don't have soft story housing, which leads to the question of how a jurisdiction should choose what to prioritize and how they should begin to plan.

Mr. Bonowitz said the focus of resilience-based planning is recovery, not just safety, and occupancy or use, not just structural. Earthquake resilience-based planning started from work at San Francisco

Planning and Urban Research, SPUR. They created a format where across the top is a timeline and down the side is a set of functions that represent city services. This is a way to identify what to prioritize and the format is the basis for resilience planning in the states of Oregon and Washington and the National Institute of Science and Technology, NIST, Community Planning Guide.

Mr. Bonowitz presented that if there were a California statewide program that adopted this format then it would greatly help every jurisdiction in their resilience-based planning.

Mr. Kersting said they welcome a continued dialogue and partnership with the Commission.

## **V. Lessons Learned from the December 22, 2018 Indonesian Tsunamis**

**Speaker – Costas Synolakis, University of Southern California**

### **Discussion:**

Mr. Synolakis presented on the Sulawesi earthquake that occurred on September 28, 2018 with a magnitude of 7.5 along a strike-slip fault, which caused a tsunami. In the past 25 years, there have been only two or three cases of tsunamis being generated by strike-slip faults making this a rare occurrence. There was tremendous liquefaction damage, some structural damage, and many deaths. There were evacuation sounds but the public were not aware of what they were.

Mr. Synolakis also presented on the December 22, 2018 tsunami which was caused by the eruption of the Anak Krakatau volcano. People were not aware of their vulnerability because even though the volcano erupted there were no measures to warn people.

Mr. Synolakis said in order to efficiently evacuate people it is important to know how quickly the water level will rise. This is the information they try to gather when out on the field in order to develop tools to know how quickly the water level will change. He recommends that pre-disaster planning cannot be effective without education in the local communities. Residents should be aware of escape routes and know how to quickly use them.

## **VI. We're All in This Together! Key Activities and Resources of Earthquake Country Alliance and the Southern Earthquake Center**

**Speaker – Mark Benthien, Earthquake Country Alliance**

### **Discussion:**

Mr. Benthien presented on resources that have been developed at Earthquake Country Alliance with support from Cal OES, FEMA, and other partners. He talked about a resource titled "Seven Steps to Earthquake Safety" that is a guide for what to do before, during, and after an earthquake. It has been developed by a large group of experts in order to present information in a simple manner. Experts are brought together by sector-based outreach committees to identify resources that are needed and customize existing resources.

The Earthquake Country Alliance has various bureaus that help get information out to the public. These include outreach, participation, media, and events. They have recently partnered with the San Francisco Neighborhood Empowerment Network to get the public involved in earthquake preparedness and there is also a Tsunami Zone website where the public can register to participate during Tsunami Preparedness Week, similar to the Great ShakeOut.

Mr. Benthien mentioned that the Earthquake Country Alliance also has guidelines for how to make ShakeOut easier for government agencies. This involves resources on how to participate, how to promote, and how cities, counties, and agencies can hold drills.

Mr. Benthien talked about a new resource coming out, which is a documentary called "Quake Heroes." They have been working on this with support from FEMA and other partners. It's a 52-minute film with interviews, archival footage, and reenactments of the Northridge earthquake. The intent of the documentary is to encourage people to take action and become better trained in earthquake preparedness. He played the documentary trailer for the Commission.

## **VII. Executive Director Report**

**Speakers – Richard McCarthy, Seismic Safety Commission Executive Director;  
Salina Valencia, Seismic Safety Commission Legislative/Communications Director;  
Lena Daniel, Seismic Safety Commission Chief Administrative Officer**

### **Discussion:**

The Commission held a closed session meeting to discuss a list of budgetary issues that included funding allocation and staff personnel issues.

The Commission reconvened to a public forum and Mr. McCarthy presented on the Homeowner's Guide. There was an RFP submitted with a limit of \$10,000, but only one bid was received and a minimum of two bids are needed for a small business. The Commission also received an unsolicited proposal for about \$16,000. There will be a new RFP and Mr. McCarthy asked the Commission to raise the limit to at least \$15,000. Ms. Daniel suggested that it be up to \$20,000 instead. A motion was made and seconded. All were in favor and no one opposed.

Ms. Valencia briefly discussed Governor Newsom's May Revision of the Proposed Budget.

The Commission received a request from a company to be a part of their preparedness fair in Mountain View. The company said the Commission may send in electronic materials that could be printed out for dissemination. Ms. Valencia said the Commission is reviewing different electronic materials that could be sent to them such as Outsmart Disaster Campaign documents and the old Homeowner's Guide so that the Commission may participate and gain more visibility.

## **VIII. Public Comment**

### **Discussion:**

None

## **IX. Miscellaneous & Good of the Meeting**

### **Discussion:**

A Commissioner discussed that there are two upcoming events he wishes the Commission to sponsor given their sponsorship of similar events last year. This would involve placing the Commission logo on advertisements. Mr. McCarthy said a vote should not be needed since it had previously been voted on.

### **IX: Meeting Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Tracy Johnson, Vice Chair.

### **Strategic Planning Workshop/Goal Setting**

Ms. Valencia discussed the goals and action items that were developed by a subcommittee. Agency has seen the draft and signed off on the goals, however, the Commission needs to review, modify, or approve them. Once the goals are finalized, Agency has suggested that the Commission develop an operational roadmap, which demonstrates how the Commission would accomplish the goals and action items.

The Commission reviewed each goal and action item and gave recommendations and modifications. A motion was made and seconded to direct staff to make the proposed changes and show them to Agency. All were in favor and no one opposed.