

STATE OF TENNESSEE



WEST TENNESSEE SEISMIC SAFETY COMMISSION

www.itmattersareyouprepared.org

University of Memphis

MINUTES

September 11, 2013 12:00 – 1:45 PM

The University of Memphis

FedEx Institute of Technology, Ste. 203/205

Memphis, TN

I. CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Elaine Clyburn

Chair Clyburn called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm. Kim began taking pictures of the Commission right after lunch.

II. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS – Clyburn

Commissioner Clyburn welcomed everyone.

Guest attending was Shelby Slater, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the UofM and on the board of the Mid-South Association of the Business Continuity Planners. Mr. Slater provided information on item C, section VII, the 2013 Emergency Planning and Incident Conference.

III. ROLL CALL, QUORUM COUNT –Clyburn

Present in the meeting were Commissioners Elaine Clyburn, Steve Horton, John Bucy, Elly Jones, Bobby Martin, Michael Walker, Mike Molder, Gary Graves, and Barry Moore.

Gary Patterson, Executive Director

IV. APPROVAL of PREVIOUS MINUTES – Clyburn

The minutes from our last meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Activities update

1. WTSSC Documentary status

The documentary won a national award (TELE); received a framed document and trophy. We would like to get the documentary on Cable One out of Dyersburg. There are more DVDs to be made and distributed upon request. It should be copyrighted so that no one can profit from it. Gary will speak with the legal counsel for advice on copyrights of the DVD. It can be seen on YouTube. If commissioners would like a copy, please see Gary.

2. July 1- Union City Rotary/Emergency Management presentation

There were good questions by people who feel earthquakes in that area at that meeting.

3. August 14, Dixon Art Gallery Presentation

Gary presented the documentary to the members of the Dixon Art Gallery and their guests during his presentation. The presentation generated a lot of good interest about the commission.

4. 2013 TEMA Shakeout PSA

The Commission has produced many PSAs and a lot of advertising for the 2013 Shakeout, especially radio airtime. Announcements are due out soon. These PSAs are some of the most successful things done by WTSSC to get our name and what we do out in the public. Announcements will go out across the state of TN and across state lines very soon.

5. Residential Seismic Code Comparison Project Update

There is an oversight committee consisting of Mr. Walker and Commissioner Moore who participated in some of the meetings for this project. The city council and the county commission voted to adopt the 2012 international building code with seismic considerations without modifications. The residential code that has not been passed yet is expected

to go through with minor amendments. The preliminary results are there is a one to three percent increase in the building of new homes with the new codes; which is a big step. There is more information to come on this project. See the article from the Commercial Appeal by Thomas Bailey posted in the WTSSC Executive Summary.

6. Shelby County Infrastructure Evaluation Project Update

Suggested by Commissioner Bob Nations...Gary met with the director of engineering Shahram Pezeshk and his faculty. They have software and the ability to use it to analyze the vulnerability of major elements in the structure of Shelby County. Director, Bob Nations will take a lead role in the oversight committee of partnership networked through commission with TEMA. Gary Patterson will be the project manager. Record shows the commission will be represented in the planning process of this project.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Inquiry on WTSSC open seats (Policy Maker, Engineer)

This person must reside in Middle or West Tennessee. The floor was opened for nominations of the two positions by Madame Chair Clyburn. Names can be given to Gary or Kim for an open nomination process.

B. WTSSC Website Progress

Website was reviewed. Updates were made according to California and Alaska Seismic Safety commissions. Transcripts from past meetings are able to be downloaded. Links are provided to our documentary. Award will be recognized on website as well. Any website input should be emailed to Gary Patterson. Additional links for emergency preparedness are being considered.

C. Feasibility study for downtown URM heritage and limited retrofit project

Memphis Heritage has a problem with losing historic building with no purpose, redesign, or resale. Gary Patterson suggested a feasibility study to see if there is interest for a partnership with existing groups about repurposing/saving some of those old buildings in the downtown area. Some commission members suggested this project may be out of the WTSSC area of focus and the project was tabled indefinitely.

D. Feasibility for WTSSC news sponsorship on NPR or other radio network

This idea will be put on the back burner. Radio broadcasting is too expensive; need a budget.

E. Earthquake Town Meeting Proposals?

Dyersburg and Millington town hall meetings were proposed. How much (budget) and when will be determined at a later date.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

A. New Commissioner, Ellie Jones

Elly Jones of State Farm Insurance, will help assist the commission from an insurance perspective.

New WTSSC Administrative Staff, Kim Boyd

Kim Boyd, Administrative Associate of CERL, will assist Beverly Cook with various administrative duties.

B. September 11 Emergency Management Association Workshop sponsor and presentation

WTSSC is doing a limited sponsorship; showing videos, Q&A sessions, etc.

C. September 18 Emergency Planning and Incident Conference

Details were shared by Mr. Shelby Slater.

D. Central US Shakeout and Public Forum, October 17

TEMA voted to move the drill from February to October and is presently advertising earthquake drills. After shakeout, there will be a public forum discussing lessons learned during the earthquake in New Zealand. CERL Director and Gary Patterson will meet with Mayor Wharton to discuss emergency management. Shelby Slater is invited to join.

E. Commissioner Tom Marshall resignation

Previously covered.

F. WTSSC Budget Update- Cook

UofM put a freeze on hiring so Ms. Cook is very limited in the amount of time she is able to give. She was not able to update the budget. Roll over funds are \$12k (FY 2013-2014) excluding funds that have already been allocated (WTSSC infrastructure vulnerability project). Ms Cook will send an itemization when possible.

G. Vice Chair Nominations and Vote

Nominations were opened for vice chair position today. Chief Gary Graves was nominated and all commissioners voted in agreement. He accepted.

H. Earthquake Engineering Display at CERI

It is cheaper to update the engineering display shake table at CERI than to purchase a new display. Gary requested funding for updating and making the display portable. The \$25k system will need approximately \$5k for software updating. All agreed on allocating \$5k from the WTSSC budget for the update.

I. WTSSC Science Fair Competition/Award for best EQ display

West TN students from elementary to high school should make a display on earthquake preparedness. It was suggested to invite all 21 TN county school districts. Will be looking for a way to offer competition to all counties. Award to be determined.

J. Salary Recovery for WTSSC Executive Director

Motions are made and agreed by all for WTSSC Executive Director salary recovery (\$20k FY 2014-15 fiscal year)

VIII. QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM GUESTS

IX. NEXT MEETING

X. WRAP UP/ADJOURNMENT / Group Photo

Complete audio files are available for this meeting.