

MEETING MINUTES  
Nevada Earthquake Safety Council (NESC)  
Wednesday, March 27, 2013, 9:00 am  
Division of Emergency Management  
Executive Conference Room  
2478 Fairview Drive  
Carson City, NV 89701

Ron Lynn opened the meeting at 9:30 am with a welcome to the attendees.

Elizabeth did a roll call. Members present included:

Alan Bennett  
Michael Blakely  
Ian Buckle  
Wayne Carlson  
Craig dePolo  
Diane dePolo  
Eric Hubbard  
Graham Kent  
Ron Lynn  
Woody Savage  
Wanda Taylor  
Jim Werle

Also present were:

Christen  
Jeff Hahn  
Tim Hall  
Eric Hubbard  
Dennis Nolan  
Henna Rasul

The meeting was called to order by Ron Lynn and opened for public comments; there were none.

### **Review and possible modification of Strategic Plan**

Jim Reagan was not present so Ron and Elizabeth presented the review and modification of the 2003 Nevada Earthquake Safety Council Strategic Plan. Discussion was opened for review and changes.

Ian stated there was different wording for the Mission statement between the Bylaws and the Strategic Plan. Meaning was similar but wording differed. Elizabeth said she would make them consistent but asked which version to utilize. Legal counsel stated the two statements should be consistent between the documents.

A motion was made to utilize the wording from the Bylaws and was seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion then moved to further editing of the Strategic Plan document. Woody suggested adding “that will” to the wording of the second bullet under critical issues on page four, third line, so that the third line would read “can collectively take significant actions now that will substantially reduce injuries.”

Ron then moved to page five. The third bullet in the first bulleted section was brought up by Ian because of the wording regarding resisting earthquake “damage.” He presented a case for utilizing wording such as earthquake “forces” or “loads” which might be better verbiage. The third bullet additionally combined older buildings and utility facilities and there was discussion regarding separating those two types of buildings into individual bullet points. Elizabeth stated the phrase “in the western and central portions” should have been deleted but was missed.

Additionally, on page five, Ken Smith suggested adding aftershocks to the first bulleted item under interrelated geologic hazards. An additional separate bullet for lake tsunami and seiche was also added to this list.

Wayne advised deleting the Council Organization paragraph on page six stating it was not needed as the organization is represented in the Bylaws. Woody was asked his opinion and disagreed. There was additional discussion about the need to keep page six. A move was made to keep page six but to amend the heading to “Summary of Goals for the Council” at the top. Motion was passed.

On page nine, Wayne talked about some of the wording regarding public information and it was decided to work with Wayne on the language of several bulleted points. Additional discussion was held regarding preparation of the public. A bullet was added for “Promotion of the Annual Nevada Great Shakeout and drills” in the strategies section.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the strategies section. Elizabeth clarified the last objective bullet should be “Promote effective public information on earthquake hazard, mitigation, preparedness and response.” Another added bullet was “Promote public awareness of seismically vulnerable unreinforced masonry (URMs) and brittle concrete structures.” This should be the last bullet. The preceding bullet should be “Promote awareness of nonstructural hazards and mitigation methods.”

Discussion moved to page 10, Goal 2. Elizabeth stated the third bullet under objectives was missing a word and should read “Enhance the integrated emergency management system statewide,” adding the word “system.” A discussion was had regarding what the Council actually does. It was clarified that the Council promotes but does not do training, developing or establishing.

Bullets four, five and six should read as follows:

4. Promote the operation and maintenance of the current seismic monitoring system,
5. Promote the development of a comprehensive statewide seismic monitoring system.
6. Promote the technology of earthquake early warning system as necessary.

Discussion regarding promotion of training of hospital staff brought about the fact that many others are also involved such as casino security. These groups of people have to do their duties on a daily basis and the enhanced emergency training is extra.

Discussion also included the utilization of the words “public safety” in the goal 2 statement. It was clarified that public safety was used in the general sense instead of the first responders under the official category of Public Safety.

Under strategies on page 10, “promote” was added as the first word of each bullet point.

Regarding goal 3 on page 11: The lack of reference to Utah or California in addition to FEMA as earthquake partners was noted. Elizabeth noted FEMA’s involvement was more in the educational and outreach format. It was decided to include “promote partnering with local, state, regional and federal entities under objectives.” Under strategies, add “conduct joint meetings with local, state, regional and federal interested entities to foster information exchange.” Also, change bullet two under strategies to “Promote the ongoing maintenance of Earthquake fault and seismicity maps. For bullet five, change the statement to end “statewide” and remove the reference to Las Vegas and rural areas. The final bullet point regarding setback criteria was discussed. Wording was changed to “Promote adoption of earthquake fault setback requirements.”

Discussion moved to Goal 4 on page 12. The statement under Goal 4 was changed to remove the first word “influence” to “support.” Under objectives, with the first bullet point, change the word “cultivate” to “identify.” The sentence should read “Identify legislative champions to promote legislation adopting seismic safety provisions.” Discussion ensued regarding partnering for funding of support of NESC policy recommendations. The wording of the third bullet under objectives was changed to read “Partner with businesses and other organizations and other sponsors to support NESC policy recommendations.”

For bullet one under the strategies section for Goal 4, change wording to remove “some obscure state budget item with lower priority.” Also, remove semicolon after “as.” The first bullet should read “Identify potential funding sources such as Building permit surcharge, Federal grants, and matching fund.” Ian and Wayne suggested changing the & sign to the word and in addition to removing etc. from the end of the last bullet under strategies. It was decided to add the word “seismic” before the word retrofit in the last two bullet points in addition to deficient essential structures.

Motion was made to accept changes and passed.

As members had to drop off the long meeting, the portion of the meeting regarding changes to the strategic plan was ended.

Ron discussed the Bylaws section for discussion only. Mike Blakely stated he is listed as representing Structural Engineers Association of Nevada which is now a defunct organization. He requested to be listed as simply representing Structural Engineers. Elizabeth stated she can make this change for him.

On page 16, under VII where it says Subcommittees, this will be changed to read Committees.

### **Recent seismicity in Nevada**

This portion of the meeting was presented by Graham Kent. He stated that in the last three months Nevada had a 5.1 magnitude event west of Tonopah. Topaz also had an earthquake. There have been a couple of swarms surrounding the Reno area. Largest grouping is near Bordertown. The line through Reno appears to follow the Mogul swarm but is a different structure. He stated the better swarms in the urban areas can be monitored, the better off everyone is. Three new stations were added by Redfield, Caughlin Ranch, and in northwest Reno. The Seismological Laboratory will reprogram some funding through USGS for placing high-sensitivity broadband devices to improve looking at earthquakes in the urban area of Reno by this summer.

### **Report on National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP)**

Ron Lynn presented this portion. A letter was written to the Secretary of Commerce for inclusion in federal records. One was on induced seismicity which has occurred in other areas. The highest priority was to establish a building rating system that is risk based. This is to be able to go out and quickly grade structures on their risk. This is a national program.

### **Schedule for 2013 Meetings**

Discussion regarding 2013 meetings and travel versus video conference was made. There is potential funding for two meetings for the full group to meet. Travel will be confirmed by Elizabeth. Craig dePolo stated they would be in Tonopah on May 7 and the next meeting was scheduled for May 8 in Las Vegas. Date for meeting will be reviewed.

### **Public Comments**

The meeting was opened for public comment. No comments were made.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 am.

Respectfully submitted, Janell Woodward  
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