



Minutes

Northern California Chapter of EERI Board of Directors Meeting

October 25, 2006



Attending

President	Ivan Wong
President Elect	Arrietta Chakos
Director	Ed Matsuda
Director	Alan Kropp
Secretary/Treasurer	Kate Stillwell
Director	Chris Rojahn (by phone)
Director	Catherine Westphall
Director	Joan MacQuarrie

Absent

Director	John Osteraas
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1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 4:55 pm.

2. Review of the Agenda

No changes or additions.

3. Consent Item - Minutes from the June, September and August Meetings

Comments were provided and incorporated.

Motion to approve all minutes: Joan, seconded by Ed

Motion approved.

Action: Kate to finalize minutes and post to website

4. Short Reports:

4a. Upcoming Events:

December Meeting – Planned for December 13th at Le Cheval. Will make an announcement of our current projects and efforts.

Next Chapter Meeting: January. Possible topics include:

- URS results of levee analysis
- BART performance / Overlay of Shakemap with SERA (system earthquake risk assessment)

Action: All board members to brainstorm other potential topics for next few meetings, for discussion at next board meeting

4b. Budget News: No change from last month. See next item.

4c. Budget to National for project support: Ivan submitted project list to National board for funding approval. The national board asked for more detailed information. See item 4e below.

4d. Status of Oakland Soft Story – Arrietta is getting lots of calls from people in the City of Oakland. She has sent interested parties all information that Berkeley has. Oakland is planning to move forward with prescriptive retrofit standards for single family homes, piggy-backing off San Leandro's effort. Oakland's soft story effort is likely to be enacted after the election, and Arrietta has communicated EERI's readiness to help.

4e. Status of San Francisco Soft Story

Marguerite attended a building department committee meeting where City of San Francisco discussed a process for conducting a soft story building inventory. City of Berkeley has conducted a similar project. City of SF wants to conduct the effort in November, but it will take more time than that to investigate addresses and coordinate with SEAONC and EERI. Chris Rojahn and Marguerite Bello are the primary liaisons with City of SF.

The technology and procedure could also be used for post-earthquake rapid assessments. ATC has considered providing PDA software but would need a funding source. Funding from FEMA is not forthcoming.

Action: Joan to investigate Berkeley's ability to share software and process with City of SF.

Action: Joan to email pertinent information to Chris and Marguerite.

Proposal: Write a funds request to National EERI for the purchase of devices and software to loan out to cities for use in assessing building inventories, such as a soft-story assessment, as well as for post-earthquake rapid evaluations and even for potential use in the future effort of building ratings.

Action: Ivan to write description as discussed above to request grant money from EERI-national.

Action: Chris and Marguerite to follow-up with city of SF, and describe the resources Berkeley has.

4f. Chapter Membership Drive – We have 28 new members

4g. Post-Conference Committee – The post-conference committee has not been active.

Action: Kate to follow-up with Laurie Johnson to see if any further action has been taken.

Discussion: To follow up the idea presented by Dick McCarthy at last weeks's chapter meeting, we should get more involved on legislative initiatives.

SSC has recently received a \$7m settlement for use on non-operating, practical measures for reducing risk.

This may give us the capacity to develop legislative initiatives in partnership with the commission

One option is to prepare advisory language in preparation for an earthquake

Action: Arrietta to follow-up with Dick and Fred Turner about when money will become available, what options are possible, what are the requirements for using the funds, and what initiatives may be the best use of the funds.

4h. Publicity / Events – What efforts will advertise our organization? Getting involved in projects.

Alan will continue to publicize chapter meetings to affiliated organizations

Action: Ivan to prepare list of affiliated organizations and distribute to board members

4i. Follow-up with SEAONC – Update on SEAONC effort on building ratings: EBC has designated a committee of four to conduct further investigation, but has not yet taken any action. Committee members include Doug Hobach, Jon Heintz, David Bonowitz, and one other person.

Action: Chris to keep informed on the activities of this effort and possibly join this subcommittee of EBC.

4j. Fremont trench – Fred Turner is seeking the chapter’s assistance in keeping the trench open seasonally.

Action: Ivan to send letter to Bob Wieckowski and the City of Fremont expressing support and endorsement from EERI-NC.

4k. Other Reports

Jeannie Perkins is trying to set up to meet on Dec. 7 or 8 for ABAG cities to adopt common standards for soft story mitigation and other such efforts.

5. Discussion Items:

5a. Strategic Plan: –

Discussion of Hayward scenario:

Is it still viable? Is it doable? What are the positive things? What needs improvement?

When the document was released there was a press conference, which the lawyers attended and to which no press showed up.

Utilities are generally being proactive about addressing the risk.

We are unlikely to get the same extent of lifeline information today.

Suggestion: Choose a meaningful piece of information from one of the scenario documents, publish it in a way that is accessible to lay readers, and use it as a lead-in to initiate discussions with elected officials. Find ways to use the information to affect change.

Losses in building inventory may be the most salient piece of information, and this is also where local officials have the jurisdiction to affect change.

We should focus on the effects of losing building stock, effects of property tax loss on recovery efforts. Also include information from fire station study.

Translate the issues into facts that can be used as a basis for decisions by city council members and other elected officials.

We may also be able to dovetail this into the SSC efforts discussed in item 4g above.

Action: Arrietta to discuss these concepts with the new Center for Catastrophic Losses at Cal.

Action: Arrietta to investigate what data Brian Quinn currently has

Action: Ivan to invite Rich Eisner to our next board meeting to discuss this effort.

Action: Ivan to investigate whether the National EERI may sponsor this effort.

Next steps: After input from Eisner, board to identify the scope for this effort, the outcome, and how to produce the outcomes.

After scope is defined, Arrietta will investigate whether we can borrow Brian Quinn for EERI, and how much he may cost us.

5b. Committees and committee board liaisons – How can we get committees back up and running? Do we have “project working groups” now, instead of committees?

The local governments committee, for example, has gone from project to project.

The idea of project-specific working groups may be better aligned with the time investment level available.

Action: Ivan to contact committee chairs to ask how they want to contribute, inform them of our current projects, ask for their ideas.

5c. Other topics:

Summary of opportunities and current projects:

How can we focus the chapter's efforts, to sustain the energy from the conference? Will the new set of projects provide targeted actions, direction, and goals? Let's try not to dilute committee efforts. Focus efforts on the current list of projects (each discussed above):

- **Soft story work**
- **Legislative efforts / coordination with SSC**
- **Revising and disseminating scenario information specific to building stock**

6. Next Board Meeting

November 27, 2006, 4:30pm, followed by dinner.

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:38PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Stillwell
Secretary

Approved

Ivan Wong
President