



# Missouri SAVE Coalition

## SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

*American Council of Engineering Companies/Missouri \* American Institute of Architects/Missouri  
American Society of Civil Engineers/St. Louis \* Earthquake Engineering Research Institute/New Madrid  
Missouri Society of Professional Engineers \* Structural Engineers Association of Kansas & Missouri  
Society of American Military Engineers/St. Louis \* Missouri Association for Code Enforcement  
Missouri Seismic Safety Commission*

## **SAVE Coalition Board Quarterly Meeting Meeting Minutes May 10, 2024**

**Attendance** – Board members Michael Alberswerth, Vicki LaRose, Scott Perkins, Thomas Bahr, Greg Hempen, Alan Napoli, Dennis Kidwell, Joe Leahy, Ray Bailey and Ted Pruess, as well as Brenna Morse from CUSEC and Amy Lepper and Jeff Briggs from SEMA.

### **Minutes Approved**

With a motion from Alan Napoli and second from Greg Hempen, **the board unanimously approved the minutes from the February 23 meeting.**

### **Board Appointments**

Joe Leahy had no update on existing appointments.

Scott Perkins said the SAME Greater Kansas City Post has expressed an interest in becoming a sponsoring organization. He said the post has hosted a SAVE training class for the past several years and is interested in becoming more involved. Leahy said he'd work with Perkins and Jeff Briggs to coordinate the paperwork to make this happen, and that he thinks this addition to the SAVE board could help encourage more membership in the Kansas City area.

With a motion from Greg Hempen and second from Ted Pruess, **the board unanimously approved adding the SAME Greater Kansas City Post as a SAVE sponsoring organization.**

### **Training Updates**

Jeff Briggs said the classes are going well so far in 2024, with classes completed in St. Louis, Kansas City and Springfield, with another big one scheduled next week in St. Louis. Joe Leahy thanked the trainers who make these classes possible. Briggs said Ted Pruess and Mike Griffin have handled all the classes this year very well.

## **Seismic Safety Commission**

Ray Bailey had nothing new to report. Joe Leahy mentioned the Earthquake Summit, of which the commission is a sponsor. Jeff Briggs said the event was very successful, with about 400 attendees at the Show Me Center in Cape Girardeau. Speakers and information booths covered a wide range of earthquake preparedness and response interests.

## **CUSEC Update**

Brenna Morse said CUSEC was a sponsor of the National Earthquake Program Managers (NEPM) meeting that was held a couple of weeks ago in St. Louis. She was pleased with the level of attendance and discussion.

CUSEC is also hosting a regional Earthquake Resilience Workshop in South Carolina next week, encouraging states to coordinate some of their planning and preparedness efforts rather than conducting them state-by-state.

Jeff Briggs said he attended the NEPM and will attend the Resilience Workshop.

## **Trimming Membership Rolls**

Jeff Briggs said he has worked with the Show Me Response database administrator as well as Dennis Kidwell to determine the current status of members, the database's capability to target expired members, and a strategy to remove non-active members. He recommends targeting members whose three-membership has expired by more than two years, with a request for them to take training by the end of the year or their SAVE status will become inactive. He said there are about 1,500 SAVE members in the database currently, with about 600 expired by more than two years.

The board concurred with this strategy. **Joe Leahy asked Briggs and Kidwell to proceed as recommended.**

## **Exercise Calendar Review**

Jeff Briggs said Ben Ross has been talking to the National Guard about SAVE participation in their July 17 exercise simulating an earthquake damaging downtown St. Louis. Other entities, such as the City of St. Louis, are participating as well. Details still must be worked out, but **we expect to reach out to SAVE members soon with an invitation to participate in-person.** Joe Leahy added that SAVE's level of participation hasn't yet been determined, including the possibility of drone use.

Vicki LaRose said she was helping Ross track down some bridge engineers to help with simulations. Greg Hempen offered his assistance if an on-site liaison is needed during development. He said that use of drones would be essential in evaluating tall downtown buildings.

Leahy said the Tennessee exercise has been pushed back to 2025. Brenna Morse said she's on the exercise planning committee, which hasn't had its first meeting yet, but she expects that to begin this summer.

### **Drone Working Group**

Brenna Morse said the group's first meeting is set for May 16. Building evaluation leads from several states have been invited. Jeff Briggs said everyone who indicated an interest in helping on this issue at the last quarterly board meeting has been invited to participate.

Ted Pruess said it may be difficult to access Civil Air Patrol drones in the days following a big event, so it would be practical to coordinate with SAVE members who have drone licenses, either individually or through their employers. He also said the restricted airspace issue may be overblown, because he sees lots of drones over impact areas in news coverage. Joe Leahy said these would be good subjects for discussion at the May 16 meeting.

### **Earthquake Award Presented**

Ted Pruess said that, on behalf of the St. Louis Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, he recently presented Jeff Briggs with the Otto Nuttli Award for outstanding service in advancement of earthquake preparedness. Briggs said he was surprised and honored by the award.

### **Upcoming Presentations**

Greg Hempen said he has two earthquake-related presentations coming up in St. Louis this summer, if anyone is interested in attending. Jeff Briggs asked Hempen to send details in an email, which he'll share with everyone.

**The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 16 at 10 a.m.**