



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 December 1, 2023

Attendance – Board members Ben Ross, Mike Griffin, Michael Alberswerth, Thomas Bahr, Kurt Krueger, Greg Hempen, Alan Napoli, James Sisk, Dennis Kidwell, Joe Leahy, Josh Verdught, Dave Weber, Dennis Cox, Ted Pruess, Scott Perkins and Vicki LaRose, as well as Brian Blake from CUSEC and Amy Lepper and Jeff Briggs from SEMA.

Minutes Approved

With a motion from Ben Ross and second from Ray Bailey, **the board unanimously approved the minutes from the September 29 meeting.**

Board Appointments

Jeff Briggs said **Vicki LaRose of Civil Design in St. Louis and Scott Perkins of Prairie Engineers in Kansas City have been appointed by ACEC to serve on the SAVE board**, with three-year terms ending in 2026.

Training Updates

Jeff Briggs said SAVE has concluded a very successful 2023 training schedule. The last class was in early November in St. Louis, with about 50 attendees. For the year, which included eight regular training classes as well as an onsite leader training and bridge inspection training, about 270 volunteers were trained.

Briggs said he's working with trainers and venues to **put together the 2024 schedule, and expects to send it out to everyone in the SAVE database in the next couple of weeks.**

Ben Ross reported on the special class he led for University of Missouri-Columbia architectural students in October. About 70 attended, he said, but they did not seem engaged. He recommended not providing training for students in the future, saying those who are interested would be better off attending a regular class after graduation and employment. Briggs agreed, saying he doesn't think the students see a role for themselves yet in the SAVE Coalition.

Joe Leahy said perhaps a one-hour overview, rather than a full-day training, would be a better fit for students, to generate interest in our mission. Vicki LaRose suggested Missouri S&T as a potential partner, and Scott Perkins suggested UMKC. Greg Hempen said engineering instructors are always looking for speakers.

Seismic Safety Commission

Ray Bailey said the commission's next meeting is coming up Dec. 5, when it will elect officers for 2024. Regarding filling commission vacancies, the Governor's Boards and Commissions office has the commission's recommendations for qualified candidates, but has said it's prioritizing appointments for boards that don't have enough members to conduct business. The MSSC can function with its current membership, so appointments may be a ways off.

The commission's critical infrastructure evaluation program has produced evaluations of several county facilities in New Madrid County, with buildings in Dunklin County scheduled for next year.

Earthquake Insurance Summit

Jeff Briggs reported on this Summit, which was held Nov. 14 in St. Louis. Around 100 attendees participated, including government officials in emergency management and insurance as well as representatives from several insurance and reinsurance companies. Among the innovative solutions discussed was a program called Strengthen Alabama Homes, which provides retrofit grants and subsequent insurance discounts to homeowners to mitigate hurricane risk. The state's insurance companies pay for the grants and provide the discounts, so this program uses no public funds. Briggs said Missouri's insurance department is interested in adapting this program for earthquake use in Missouri, so further development looks promising.

Earthquake Summit 2024 in Cape Girardeau

Briggs said the 6th annual Earthquake Summit has been scheduled for March 21 in Cape Girardeau. This annual event is expected to draw about 400 attendees; the planning committee is working on an agenda and other logistics. **The SAVE board will be included when the invitations go out later this month.**

Inspector Qualifications

Kurt Krueger shared an updated list of qualifications for SAVE Inspectors 1-4 that were developed by a group of board members as a result of discussions from the last quarterly board meeting. After additional input from several members, **Krueger asked Jeff Briggs to set up another meeting for further discussion.**

Trimming Membership Rolls

Joe Leahy said that, now that the yearly training is complete and everyone has had a chance to renew their membership, he recommends sending a note to everyone in the SAVE database to see if

they'd like to continue with their membership. If they say no, or if there's no response, remove them from the database. Jeff Briggs suggested sending a note only to expired members, with a follow-up to those who don't respond. Brian Blake suggested text messaging as well. Greg Hempen suggested saving those who are removed for future reference if necessary.

Joe Leahy asked if there's an option to make non-responsive members inactive, rather than removing them from the database entirely. Jeff Briggs said that there is an inactive option. Dave Weber said the inactive option is a great way to remove members without losing them entirely. Ben Ross agreed, saying that if we can't contact them via email or text they should be inactive.

Leahy asked Briggs and Dennis Kidwell to research options in the Show Me Response database and report back at the next board meeting with recommendations.

CUSEC Update

Brian Blake said a multi-state building evaluation call is scheduled for Dec. 12, to hear updates and plans for regional activities. He also said Tennessee did not allot any funds for a building evaluation exercise this year, so the earliest it could happen is late 2024 or 2025.

Tennessee Building Evaluation Exercise

Ben Ross said he met with Tennessee's building evaluation leadership this week, and they also said that an exercise isn't likely before 2025. They also expressed interest in an on-site leadership training from Missouri SAVE.

Ross was also told that Tennessee doesn't generate the EMPG grant match that's used in Missouri, so that may be an opportunity to grow Tennessee's program. Brian Blake suggested EMPG match as a topic for the Dec. 12 multi-state building evaluation call.

Drone Deployment

Jeff Briggs said that, following up from the last meeting, he's reached out to the National Guard and Civil Air Patrol to gauge their interest in partnering with us for drone operators during a deployment; he has yet to hear back. Brian Blake recommended using a Memorandum of Understanding that would be included in the Operations Plans that would outline a working relationship between drone operators and SAVE. **He'll send MOUs CUSEC has with other organizations to Briggs as examples.**

Election of Officers

Joe Leahy said his three-term as board chair will end at the end of the month, so a replacement is needed. **Ben Ross nominated Leahy to another three-year term, which was unanimously approved.** Leahy said he would make a concerted effort to find a vice-chair soon.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 23 at 10 a.m. in Jefferson City.