



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 February 23, 2024

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

Minutes Approved

With a motion from Josh VerDught and second from Michael Alberswerth, **the board unanimously approved the minutes from the December 1 meeting.**

Virtual Meetings

Jeff Briggs suggested making these quarterly board meetings virtual, since everyone's busy and in-person attendance is very low. He said that if in-person meetings are desired in the future he'd be happy to set it up. The board voiced no disagreement, so **Briggs will make future meetings virtual only unless otherwise directed.**

Board Appointments

Joe Leahy had no update.

Training Updates

Jeff Briggs said the schedule for 2024 classes was sent to all SAVE members in December, and is on the SAVE web site. Eight standard classes are scheduled – three in St. Louis, two in Kansas City, and one each in Springfield, Jefferson City and Cape Girardeau. The first class is coming up March 8 in St. Louis and is already full, so we're off to a good start.

Seismic Safety Commission

Ray Bailey said that at the commission's Dec. 5 meeting Eric Sandvol was elected chair for 2024, and Bailey was elected vice-chair. The next meeting is March 20 in Cape Girardeau, followed by the Earthquake Summit the next day. The commission's Critical Infrastructure program will conduct building evaluations in Dunklin County this year. Regarding filling commission vacancies, the Governor's Boards and Commissions representative slot is vacant and isn't likely to be filled anytime soon, so it's unlikely we'll see any progress in the near future.

CUSEC Update

Brenna Morse said she's the new program manager at CUSEC, with years of experience in emergency management in Tennessee, including work with that state's building evaluation program. She encouraged SAVE board members to reach out if there's any way CUSEC can add value to our initiatives.

Jeff Briggs added that CUSEC sponsored a recent webinar for local building officials highlighting building evaluation programs in Missouri, Tennessee and Arkansas. About 150 attendees heard highlights of the state programs, including past deployments, program overviews and deployment procedures. Joe Leahy, Ben Ross and Briggs presented on SAVE's behalf.

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 two quarterly board meetings. With a motion from Ben Ross and second from Alan Napoli, the board unanimously approved the updated qualifications. Jeff Briggs said he would insert the new qualifications into the SAVE Administration plan and begin using them in future SAVE trainings.

Trimming Membership Rolls

Jeff Briggs said he and Dennis Kidwell have discussed the best ways to identify groups of SAVE members with expired memberships, how to reach out to them to check their interest in renewing, and when to categorize them as inactive in the database. He's also been working with SEMA's Show Me Response administrator to learn more about Show Me Response's capabilities in these areas. **Briggs, Kidwell and the administrator will meet again next week to begin putting together recommendations to bring to the board at the next meeting.**

Mike Griffin asked about current membership numbers. Briggs there are about 1500-1600 volunteers in the database now, with about half in their current three-year membership window. Once we reach out to expired members to ask whether they're still interested in membership, or will take a renewal class, we may lose a few hundred members.

Tennessee Building Evaluation Exercise

Ben Ross said he had no new information; he's still hearing that an exercise isn't likely before 2025. Brenna Morse of CUSEC said she attended the kickoff meeting for the exercise and is on the planning committee. They're planning the exercise for May of 2025, and intend to use EMAC to

request assistance from building evaluation groups such as SAVE from other states. Ross said he's willing to help with the planning, and hopes that Missouri SAVE would be willing to send some volunteers. Joe Leahy also volunteered to help. Morse said they'll need not only evaluation volunteers but also exercise evaluators, so outside expertise will be appreciated.

Ross suggested this topic be changed to "Exercise Calendar Review" in order for the board to stay on top of future exercises; Briggs will make that change.

Ross said he'd heard from the National Guard about an earthquake exercise in July in St. Louis that SAVE may be able to participate in. The exercise will include building collapse and bridge damage in downtown St. Louis. The National Guard will follow up with Ross regarding possible participation.

The National Guard also has an exercise planning for August 2025 called Vigilant Guard.

Joe Leahy thanked Ross to looking for exercise opportunities where SAVE could participate without having to take the planning lead. Ross said this is part of SAVE's ongoing going of developing a better relationship with the National Guard, who we may work closely with in deployments.

Drone Deployment

Ted Pruess said he hopes that SAVE can come to an agreement with the Civil Air Patrol to be available to us in deployments. Jeff Briggs said he's reached out to the Civil Air Patrol and they're checking on it; haven't heard back yet. Joe Leahy said it would likely require a Memorandum of Understanding between SEMA and the Civil Air Patrol.

Scott Perkins suggested a working group to determine how best to use drones. He said there's a lot of capacity in addition to the Civil Air Patrol. **Perkins, Pruess, Mike Griffin and Ben Ross volunteered for the group.** Ross asked Brenna Morse whether CUSEC would like to be involved, or even lead, the group, since drone use would benefit all states. **Morse said she'd like to be involved, and will check with Brian Blake regarding leading the group.**

Earthquake Summit 2024 in Cape Girardeau

Briggs said the 6th annual Earthquake Summit is coming up March 21 in Cape Girardeau. This annual professional development event is expected to draw about 500 attendees, so it's a big networking opportunity in addition to education. **Briggs will forward invitations to the board members** who may have missed the initial invitations that went out in December.

EMAC/MRP

Ben Ross requested an item be added to future board agendas to discuss Emergency Management Assistance Compacts (EMAC) and Mission Ready Packages (MRP). SEMA is working on budget adjustments that will allow out-of-state volunteers to be paid, so we'll need to have volunteers exercised and prepared to go out of state. Having this agenda item will allow for updates on

volunteer training, SEMA EMAC budgeting, and developing Mission Ready Packages for use in out-of-state deployments.

Brenna Morse said she was the EMAC coordinator when she worked for Tennessee's emergency management agency, and would be happy to help.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 10 at 10 a.m.